Shojo Beat Manga

BABY & Me™

Story & Art by

Marimo Ragawa

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Shojo Beat

BABY & Me™

Vol. 1

Story & Art by **Marimo Ragawa**

BABY & Me
CHAPTER ONE

BABY & Me™

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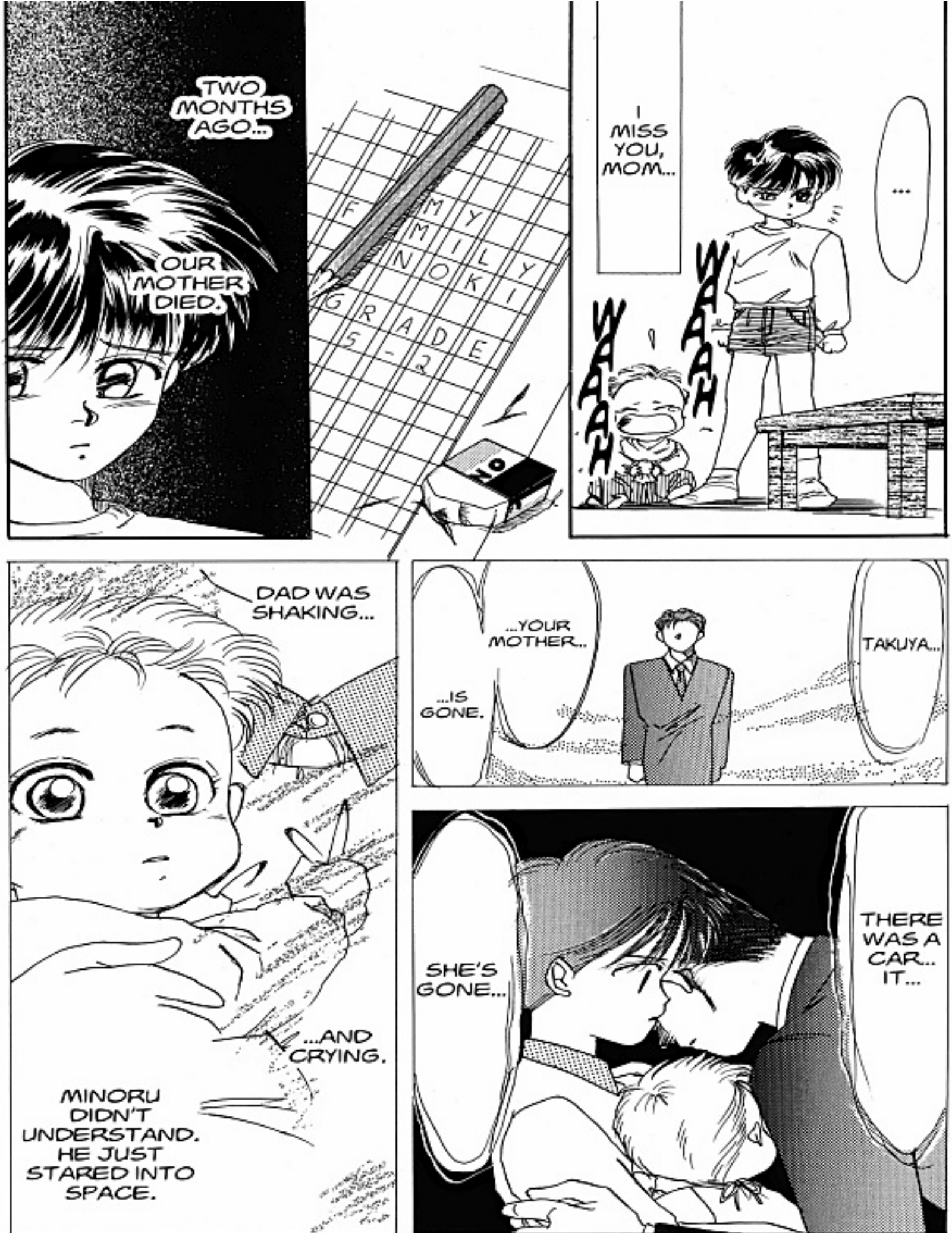
YOU'RE A BIG BROTHER NOW, TAKUYA.
A BIG BROTHER...
...
LOOK, TAKUYA...
HE'S YOUR NEW BABY BRO-THER.
HIS NAME IS MINORU.
GWAAH
NYAAAH
GOSH!
HE'S SO NOISY!
...
WAAH

MINORU...
OKAY, OKAY! WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIP
SNIP
WAAH
WAAH
WELL, YOU WERE SWINGING HER AROUND BY HER HAIR YESTERDAY, WEREN'T YOU?
AREN'T YOU A BOY?
OH... RIKO LOST HER HEAD. SHE'S YOUR FAVORITE, HUH?
WHAT A BRAT!
GEEZ!
JUST SIT THERE AND CRY THEN!!
!!
WAAA


TWO MONTHS AGO...
OUR MOTHER DIED.
FAMILY NOKI GRADE S-2
I MISS YOU, MOM...
...
WAAH
WAAH
DAD WAS SHAKING...
...AND CRYING.
MINORU DIDN'T UNDERSTAND. HE JUST STARED INTO SPACE.
...YOUR MOTHER..
...IS GONE.
TAKUYA...
SHE'S GONE...
THERE WAS A CAR.. IT...

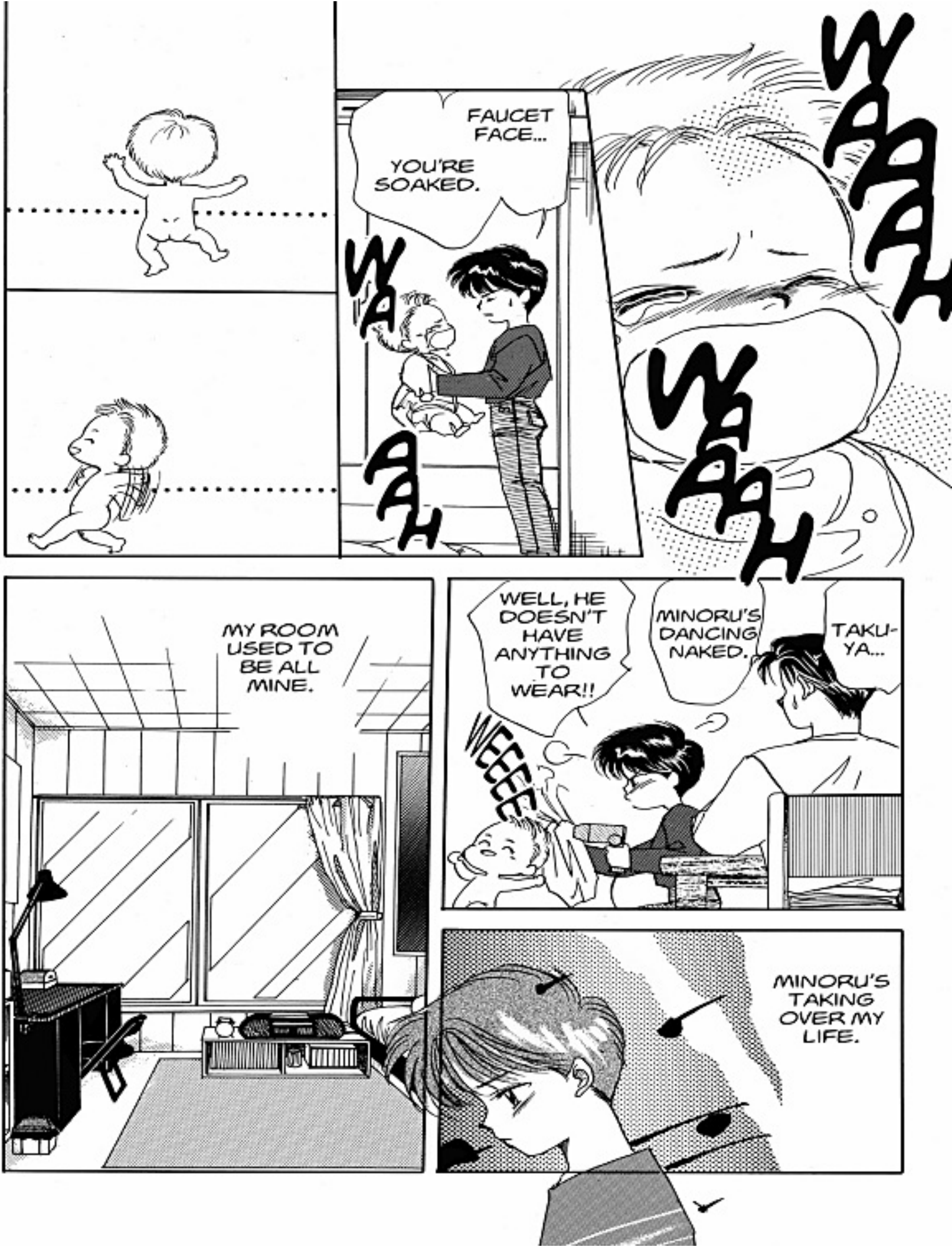
ENOKI.
YACK
YACK
YACK
ALL RIGHT...
CLASS DIS-MISSED.
KLAK
BYE, TEACHER!
BYE, EVERYBODY!
TROMP
THE "MY FAMILY" COMPO-SITION CONTEST ENTRIES...
ARE DUE IN ONE WEEK! SO GET CRACKING!
CRUEL?
HEY
HEY
I JUST THOUGHT...
WELL, UM... ABOUT THE COMPOSITION.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WRITE ONE, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO.
IT SEEMS... A LITTLE CRUEL TO ASK YOU TO WRITE THAT.
YES, SIR?

I WISH...
HEY
HEY
HEY
...I COULD STAY HERE AND PLAY.
BUT I CAN'T...
OH, YOU'RE MINORU'S BROTHER.
WAAH
WAAH
MINO-RU!
YOUR BIG BRO-THER'S HERE.
OH...
OH...
SOME-TIMES I WANT TO KICK HIM...
ABA?
TUNK
HEE!
BABA...

BUT IF YOU CAN'T SEW, TRY TO FIND SOME WITH LOOPS ALREADY ON THEM, OKAY?
SO WE CAN HANG THEM TO DRY.
EACH CHILD SHOULD HAVE TWO HAND-SEWN WASH-CLOTHS FOR US TO CLEAN THEIR FACES WITH.
HUH?
BY THE WAY, TAKUYA...
UM...
YES, MA'AM.
I WILL.
SIGH
...AND LEAVE IT LYING ON THE FLOOR?
CAN'T WE JUST WRITE HIS NAME ON AN OLD RAG...
WHAT A PAIN.

HE SMELLS LIKE MILK.
SNIFF
UNH, HE'S SLIDING DOWN...
...
KIDS GIVE OFF A LOT OF HEAT.
I GUESS I'M A KID TOO.
I'M ONLY TEN.
OH, YEAH...
HE'S NICE AND WARM...
OH. SORRY I'M LATE.
I'LL START DINNER.
HE JUST FELL ASLEEP.
HOW'S MINORU?
HI, DAD.
I WONDER IF MINORU...
...CAN FEEL MY BODY HEAT.
I'M HOME...
NO!!
YOU SHOULD BUY US SOME TV DINNERS.

HE'S SELF-ISH!
HUH?
DAD, MINORU'S SELFISH.
THE THREE OF US HAVE TO EAT TOGETHER!!
WE'D LOSE OUR FAMILY TIME!!
OKAY...
YAHOO!
WIP
WIP
WIP
YES YOU DO. THE MAN ACROSS THE STREET IS 50, BUT HE DANCES ON HIS WAY TO WORK.
NO I DON'T...
YOU'RE ONLY 33, AND YOU LOOK LIKE AN OLD MAN.
...AND ALL HE DOES IS SCREAM AND CRY.
YOU AND I HAVE TO WORK SO HARD...
HE TAKES GOOD CARE OF MINORU.
OKAY, OKAY!
TOMP TOMP TOMP TOMP
THERE GOES MINORU.
WAAAH
MR. KIMURA'S "SPECIAL".
DON'T COMPARE ME TO HIM.


FAUCET FACE...
YOU'RE SOAKED.
WAAAH
WAAAH
WAAAH
MY ROOM USED TO BE ALL MINE.
WELL, HE DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WEAR!!
MINORU'S DANCING NAKED.
TAKU-YA...
WEEEE
MINORU'S TAKING OVER MY LIFE.

I HAVE TO BE IN THE LIVING ROOM SO I CAN KEEP AN EYE ON HIM.
WHEN I STUDY...
"
"
MINORU'S BETWEEN US.
WHEN WE SLEEP...
NOW I BARELY RECOGNIZE IT.
...
BUT...
I KNOW THERE'S NO OTHER WAY...
...
SKRIK..
SKRIK
SKRIK
SKRIK
SKRIK
I WISH I COULD BE LIKE MY FRIENDS.

...PLAY-WITH-ME MANEUVER!!
THIS IS HIS...
AHH...
OH
TWINKLE
TWINKLE
AHH
DABA?
HMPH...
WUMP
WHOO
AH...
BOO...

AUTHOR'S NOTE 1

WOW! MINORU, TAKUYA AND THEIR FATHER ARE SO UGLY COMPARED TO MY LATER DRAWINGS!

OW!
OUCH.
...
HE'S HAD ENOUGH.
TUK TUK
TUK
HAAA
AWOO
HORK
HORK
TUP TUP
I THINK...
...WE'RE LOW ON MILK.
HMM...
HE'S ALL RIGHT.
SNORT SNORT
HORK
HORK
DOES HE HAVE A STUFFY NOSE?
HE'S SO NOISY...

PHEW!
HUMMA...
HUH?
TMP
HE NEEDS DIAPERS TOO.
JUST KEEP SLEEPING.
I NEED TO DO LAUN-DRY...
WHAT...
WHAT AM I DOING?
AND CLEAN THE HOUSE...
AND DO MY HOMEWORK...
AND CLEAN THE BATHTUB...

MINORU...

MINORU'S...

...NOT MY BOSS.

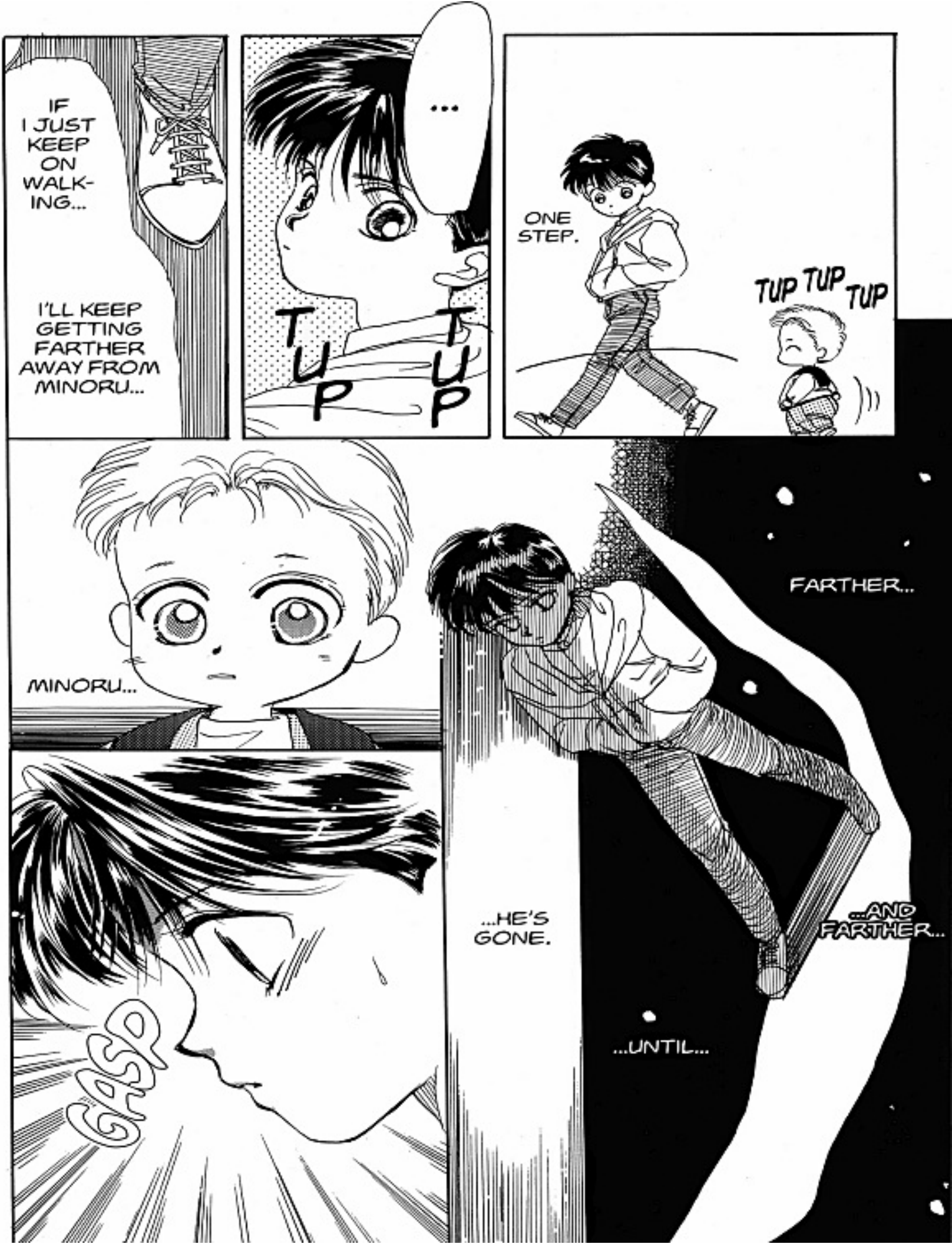
MINORU'S TOO LOUD...
CAN'T YOU KEEP HIM A LITTLE QUIETER?
OH. THE NEIGHBOR LADY.
NOW LISTEN, SON...
TAKUYA...
SLAM
I'M SORRY YOU DON'T HAVE A MOTHER, BUT...
OF COURSE.
I HATE IT WORSE THAN YOU DO.
WELL, UH...
HOW CAN I MAKE HIM STOP CRYING?
BUT...
...BUT IF YOU'D TAKE BETTER CARE OF HIM...
I KNOW HE'S A BABY...
...A BABY.
HE'S JUST...

WAAH
WAAH
...HE WOULDN'T CRY SO MUCH!
OUCH!
SWAK
ARE YOU WET?
WANT SOME MILK?
WAAAH
MINORU...
WAAAH
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
WAAAH
...

WAAA
SNUFF
DON'T CRY... PLEASE...
MINO-RU...
WAAA
WAAA
...WHY HE'S CRYING.
I DON'T KNOW...
GRRR
I CAN'T TAKE ANYMORE!
IF YOU'D TAKE BETTER CARE OF HIM...

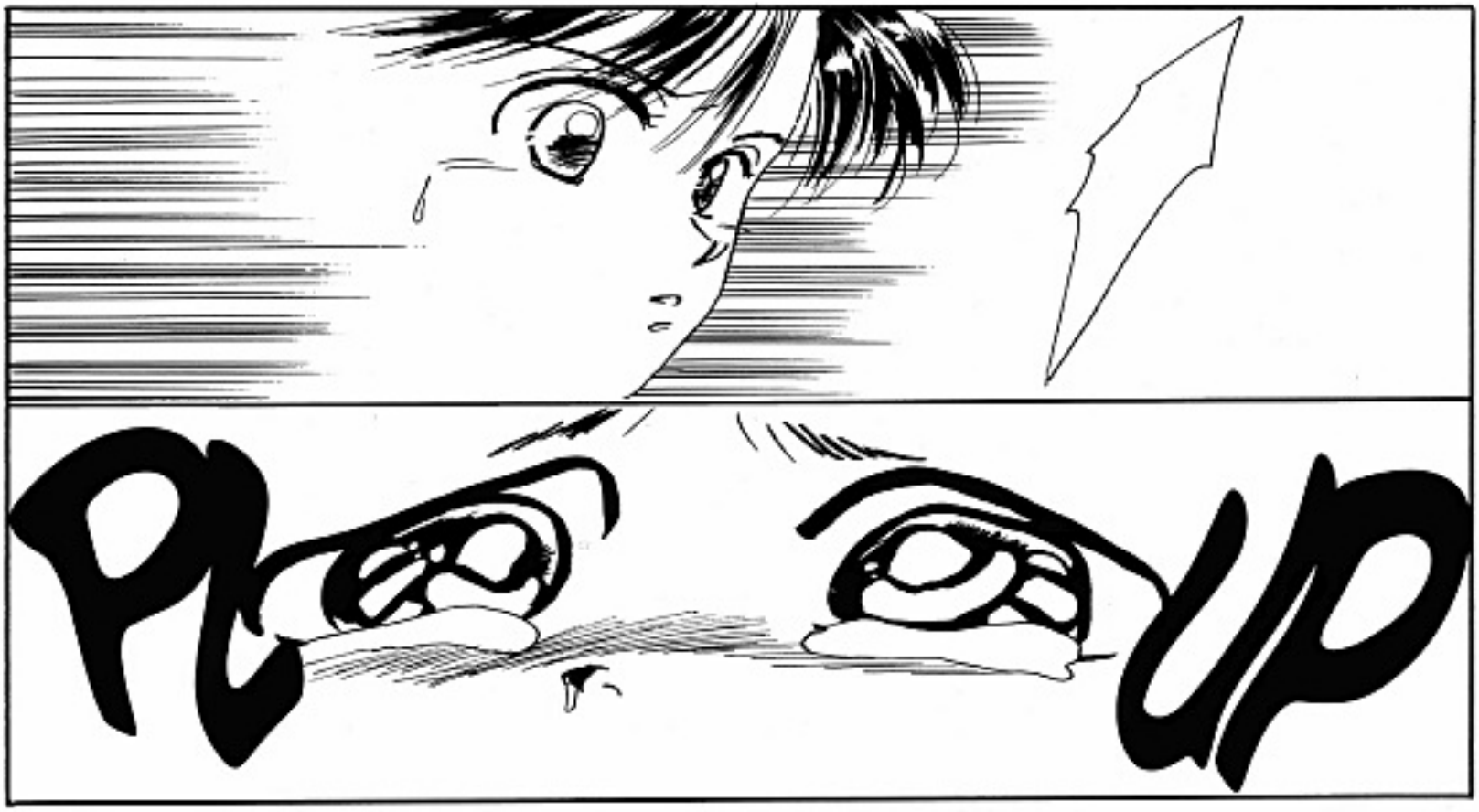
DON'T CRY!!
SNIFFLE...
PLOP
WHY,
WHY,
STOP...
TEARS?
WHY?!
SNIFFLE...

I'M A CRYBABY TOO.
WHAT A WIMP...
SNIFF
BOO?
HIC
BA...
OBA...
TUP TUP TUP
TUP TUP TUP
TUP TUP TUP


IF I JUST KEEP ON WALK-ING...
I'LL KEEP GETTING FARTHER AWAY FROM MINORU...
...
TUP TUP
ONE STEP.
TUP TUP TUP
MINORU...
FARTHER...
...AND FARTHER...
...HE'S GONE.
...UNTIL...
GASP

MINORU...
WOOSH
WHOA!
I REALLY DID LEAVE HIM BEHIND!
IT'S THAT MEAN DOG, FRANCES!
GRRR
GRRR

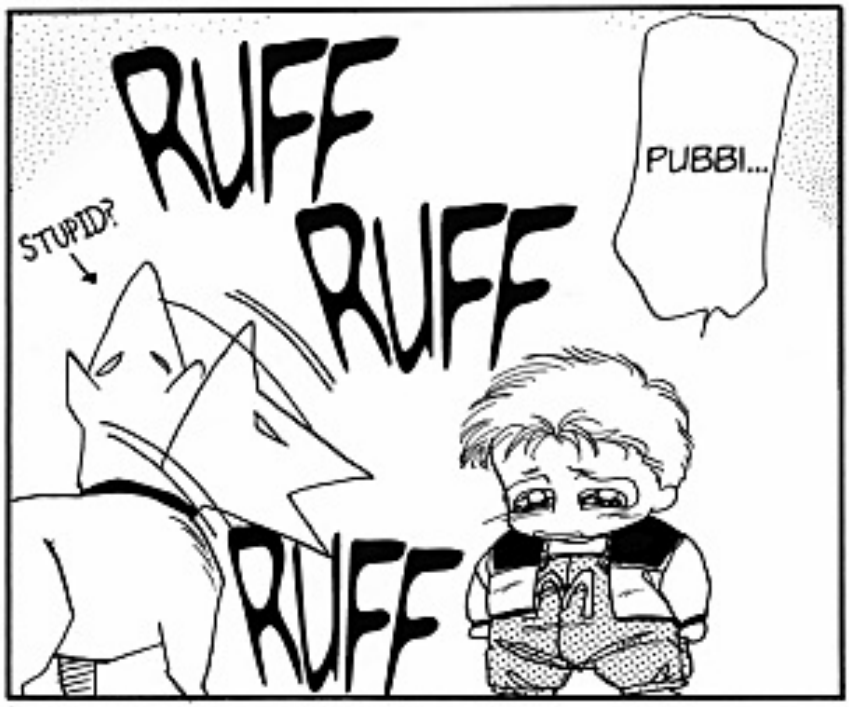
GRRR
...
--RU.
TWITCH
MINO--
HE'S GONNA GET BIT!!
RUFF
HUH!?

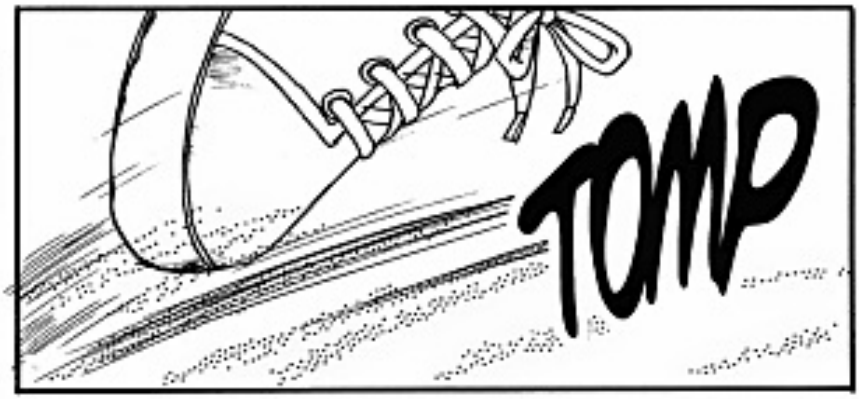

PL
UP

MI--

--NO--

--RU!!


RUFF
RUFF
RUFF
STUPID?
PUBBI...


TOMP

WAP
HUFF
HUFF
TA
TUMP
OWFF
OWFF
YOW!!
MINORU?
...UBBEE...
WAP
PHEW
SAFE...
SHIVER

I'M SORRY.
BUBBEE...
BUB-BEE...
BUB-BEE...
BUB-BEE...
WHAT?!
I...
...DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO FIGURE OUT WHAT HE WANTED.
HE'S BEEN LONELY.
BUBBEE...
I'M SORRY...
MINO-RU...
OR HOW...
...HE FELT.

...
YOU KNOW SOME-THING?
HE NEEDS A HAND TO HOLD ON TO.
HE'S JUST A BABY, BUT HE HAS FEELINGS.
SIZZL SIZZL
HE'S BEEN LONELY.
SO...
ZZZ ZZZ
I...
WHAT?
IT'S YOUR LITTLE BROTHER MINORU.
...HOW CUTE HE IS.
I REALIZED ...

...TAKU-YA?
TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM.
WILL YOU DO THAT FOR ME?
WILL YOU DO THAT FOR ME...
MY BABY BROTHER...
...
STARE
STARE

SILENT
GABA!
HEY, MINORU...
SMILES
MINORU DOESN'T CRY AS MUCH ANYMORE.
HE'S LEARNED HOW...
...TO TURN ON THE CHARM.
YOU'D UNDERSTAND IF YOU MET MY BABY BROTHER.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
YOU COULDN'T WRITE YOUR COMPOSITION BECAUSE YOU WERE DISTRACTED BY CHARM?

I'M A BIG BROTHER

MY MOM DIED...

...AND LEFT MY DAD, ME, AND MINORU BEHIND.

MINORU DOESN'T REMEMBER HER AT ALL.

SO I...

...HAVE TO MAKE HIM FEEL LOVED.

'CAUSE...

...I'M HIS BIG BROTHER.

BABY & Me

GOO.
BUMP
BUKU AND GASHAPEN ARE SUPER SWELL TOO!
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
GOO ...
I'M GASHA-PEN!
I'M BUKU!
I'M JUST SWELL! ♡
HI, BOYS AND GIRLS! HOW ARE YOU?
EXCITEMENT
...
YAY...
NOD
NOD
AND NOW...
IT'S TIME FOR THE PONKIKKI EXERCISE!

I GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE SO HARD ON HIM.
MINORU SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY WORRIES YET.
HE IS JUST A BABY.
NUNCHAKA
NUNCHAKA
I HATE TO DO THIS, BUT...
...FOR DINNER TONIGHT...
IT'LL BE DE-LIVERY.
OKAY, DAD.
CHAK
TAKUYA! HURRY UP OR YOU'LL BE LATE FOR SCHOOL!
OH, AND TAKUYA ...
I HAVE A MEETING, SO I'LL BE HOME LATE.
OKAY.
I'M LEAVING NOW.

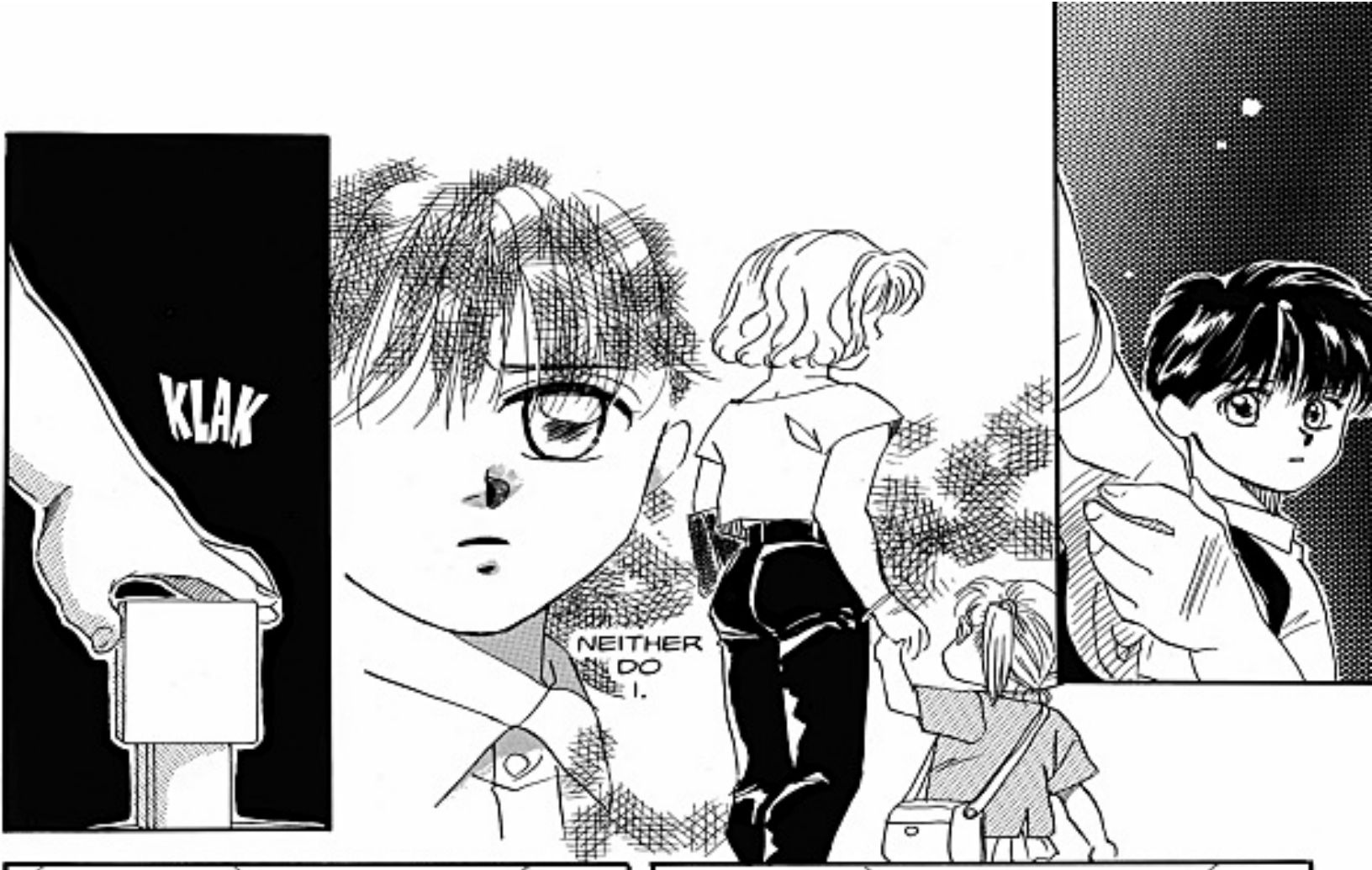
HUH?
YOU'RE A TERRIFIC SON!!
TAKU-YA...
YES?
SWUFF
SEE YOU TONIGHT.
HEE HEE!
I LOVE YOU TOO, MINORU!
OH, RIGHT...
SW UFF
MINORU?
HUBB..

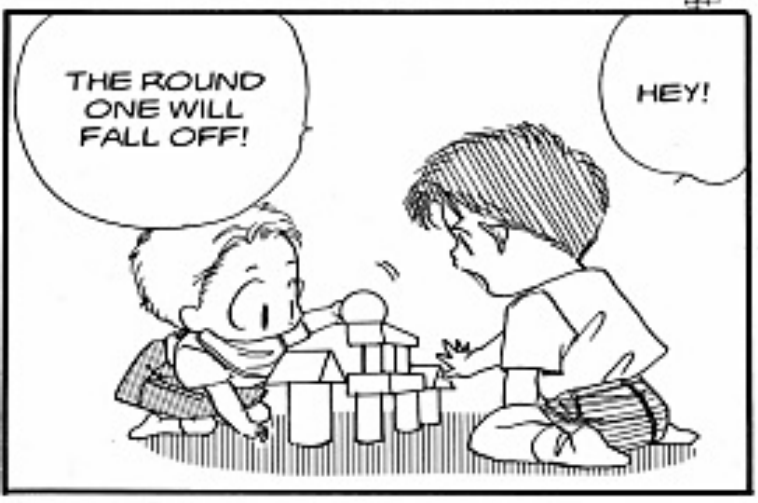
...THAT LIFE'S SO BAD WITHOUT MOM.
...SOMETIMES I WISH SHE WAS HERE.
I DON'T SAY ANYTHING TO DAD, BUT...
IT'S NOT...
HE MISSES HIS MOTHER.
MAGA?
MUMBLE
I GUESS...
I COULD PLAY MORE...
AND DAD WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORK SO HARD.
THEN I WOULDN'T HAVE TO SPEND SO MUCH TIME LOOKING AFTER MINORU.

IF ONLY MOM WAS HERE.
WHY...
HRRRR
HRRRR
MINORU...
...IS HE CRYING?
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE YOU WERE LATE.
WHAT?!
BUT I'M ONLY A LITTLE LATE...
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF
GABU...
SNIFF
HE'S SO SWEET...
UM... YEAH...
...BUT HE CAN BE A LITTLE STRONG-WILLED.

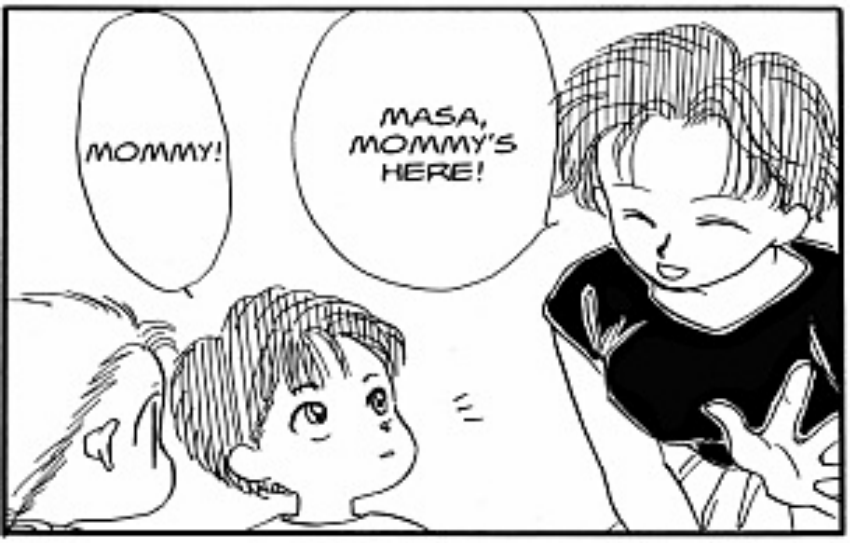
UH... SURE.
TAKUYA, MINORU WET HIS BED DURING NAPTIME. WOULD YOU TAKE THE SHEET HOME?
GEEZ!
BWAZA!!
WHA? HEY!
SKREEE
WAP
KLAK
MINORU!
VREEN

WILL YOU PLAY WITH MY LITTLE BROTHER MINORU?
SIT HERE AND PLAY WITH THESE BLOCKS.
RUCKUS
I GUESS HE CLINGS TO ME 'CAUSE HE DOESN'T HAVE A MOTHER...
...BUT NEITHER DO I.
HE'S WEARING A DIAPER, SO HOW DID HIS SHEET GET WET?
WAAH!
THANK YOU.
MOMMY!
POOR MINORU...
SNUFF


KLAK
NEITHER DO I.


THE ROUND ONE WILL FALL OFF!
HEY!

THIS IS THE CASTLE OF CAGLIOSTRO.
DEH...
OKAY...


MOMMY!
MASA, MOMMY'S HERE!

HEY, IT STAYED.
CHING

DID YOU CRY?
NO.
I'M SORRY.
YOU'RE LATE.
WUSP WUSP
THERE HE IS.
TAK TAK
TAK TAK
MINO--

TONK
BWAAH!!
EEK! MASA!!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT KID?!

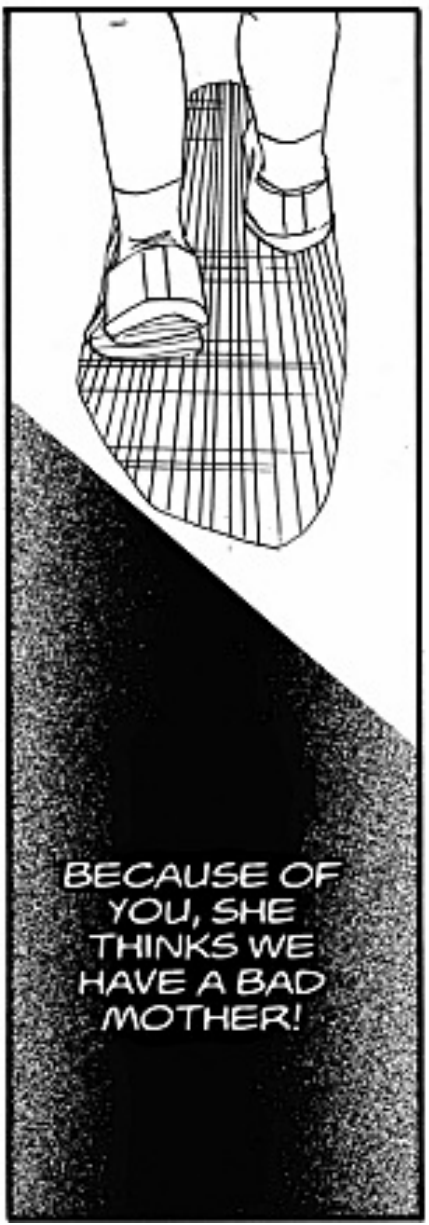
WELL, CHILDREN GET INTO SCUFFLES SOMETIMES...
IT WASN'T A SCUFFLE!
HE ASSAULTED MASA WITHOUT PROVOCATION!!
OH NO, WHAT DO I DO?

"WHAT HAPPENED?"
WHAT HAPPENED?
THAT KID HIT MY SON WITH A BLOCK!!

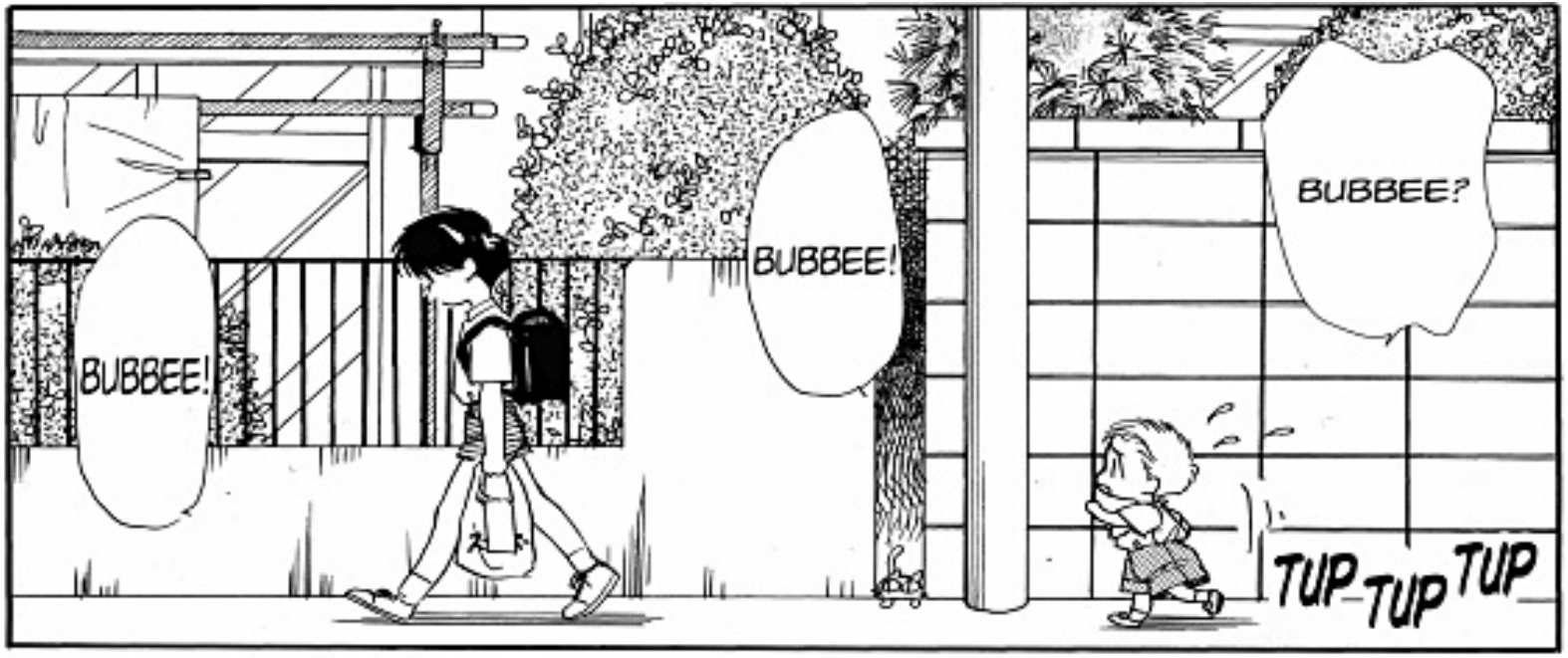
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIS MOTHER?!
THIS IS HIS PARENTS' FAULT! THEY HAVEN'T TAUGHT HIM TO PLAY NICE!!

MY LEGS WON'T MOVE...
I'M SORRY. HE'S JUST A BABY.
I'M SURE HE DIDN'T MEAN TO HURT MASA.

TUMP TUMP
NUH?
MINORU!
BUB-BEE!
...
YOU SAY YOU'RE SORRY!
RIGHT NOW!!



BAD BABY, MINORU!!


BUBBEE!
BUBBEE!
BUBBEE?
TUP-TUP TUP

TURNING A DEAF EAR.

BUBBEE!!

...

SOB...
...

HOLY SMOKES!!
WHO'S GETTING MUR-DERED?!!
YOU'RE SUCH A...
...PEST!
WAAAH
WAAAH
KOOSH
MINORU HIT A KID IN NURSERY SCHOOL?!
WHY?
I DON'T KNOW.
THE BOY HAD A TURTLE GROUP NAMETAG, SO HE'S OLDER THAN MINORU.
REALLY?
MINORU BEAT UP AN OLDER KID?

WHEN DID HE WAKE UP?
OH.
MINO-RU...
DON'T BE PROUD OF HIM!
MINORU HIT HIM FOR NO REASON!
WHOOSH
UB...
TAKUYA...
WILL YOU FORGIVE HIM?
MINORU'S SORRY FOR WHAT HE DID.
UBBA...

Author's Note 2

I'd like to thank all of you who bought my book. This is my very first comic.

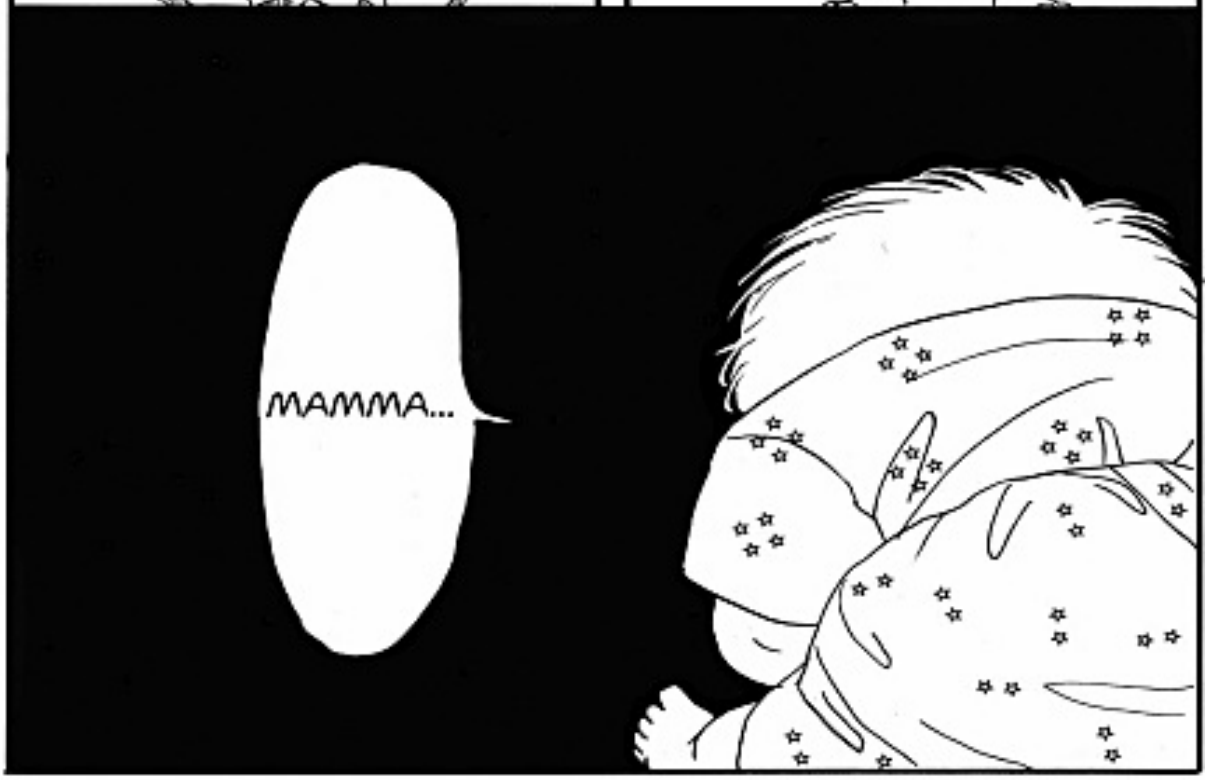
I'm so sleepy...

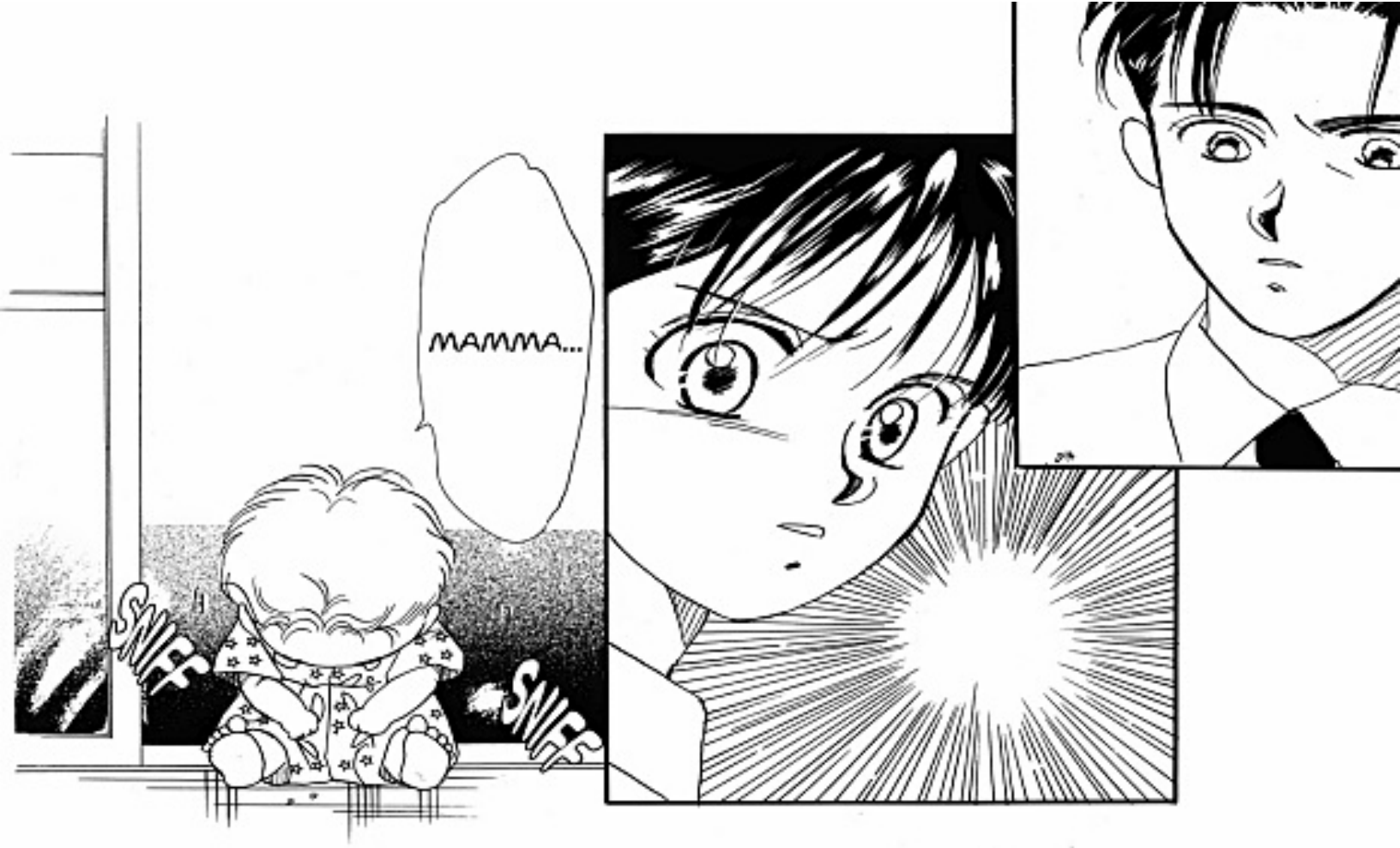
I was excited to be writing my first author's note, but I don't normally take a good look at my work. So, when I reviewed it, I started to wonder if it was really fit to be published.

Especially Chapter 1. I worked on Chapter 2 when I was in a slump. For every chapter that I completed, I think it took me 3 or 4 tries.

In the beginning, I made all of my deadlines, but with each succeeding chapter, I grew bolder, and soon I was missing deadlines all the time.

Apologies to my editor.




MAMMA...
SNIFF
SNIFF

...HOW HARD I TRY, I CAN NEVER TAKE MOM'S PLACE.
I'M JUST A BIG BROTHER.

NO MATTER...
MAMMA...

I'LL NEVER BE ABLE...
...TO UNDER-STAND MINORU LIKE MOM COULD.
TAKUYA...
MINORU.
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY OUT, HUH?
YEAH. I GUESS I'LL AIR OUT THE BEDDING.
GEEZ, YOU SOUND LIKE A HOUSE-WIFE!
IT'S SUNDAY! LET'S GO FOR A PICNIC!
REALLY?
SURE.

KUMAGAYA
STATION
JUST FOR TODAY...
...I FOUND YOU A SUBSTI-TUTE MOTHER.
OH, UM...
THIS IS MISS OTANI. SHE WORKS WITH ME.
...
THANKS FOR COMING ALONG.
IT'S MY PLEASURE. I JUST LOVE KIDS.
MAMMA?
THAT'S RIGHT.
I'M YOUR MOMMY TODAY.

YUB...
OH! YOU'RE SO SWEET!
MR. ENOKI, LET ME CARRY MINORU.
OKAY, THEN I'LL TAKE THE BASKET.
...
OKAY, TAKUYA, LET'S GO!
YUP

WHY CAN'T I ENJOY MYSELF?
ABBU...
I CAN'T EVEN SMILE FOR REAL.
HERE YOU GO, MINORU!
BA...
BA...

BAWU
IBBEE
TWEET
TWEET
BUB-BUP
TAKUYA...
GO PLAY WITH THEM.
I...
I DON'T WANT A PRETEND MOTHER.
WELL, OKAY, BUT...

UM...
DAD...
I BET HE'D HAVE EVEN MORE FUN IF YOU PLAYED TOO.
MINORU'S HAVING A GOOD TIME.
YOU ALWAYS CARE MORE ABOUT MINORU'S FEELINGS ...
...THAN YOU DO ABOUT MINE.
ALWAYS.

WELL, TAKUYA...
...YOU'RE OLDER. YOU'RE THE BIG BROTHER.
WHY DO I ALWAYS HAVE TO COME SECOND?
HOW COME?
WELL I DIDN'T ASK TO BE THE BIG BROTHER!
I HATE MINORU!!
SWAP

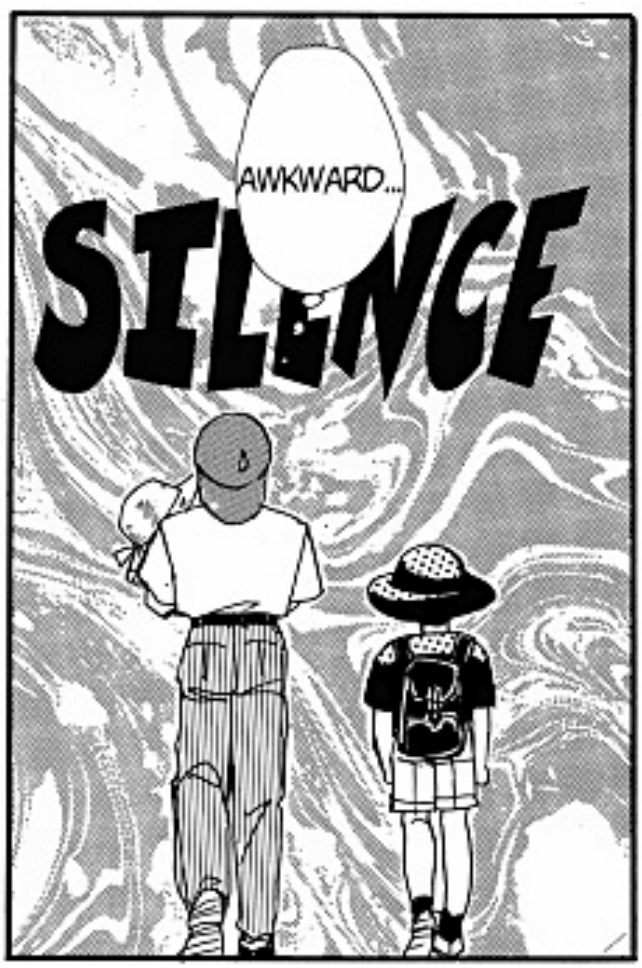
DON'T EVER SAY THAT...
...TAKUYA!
NO... HE'S IN A BAD MOOD.
DOESN'T TAKUYA WANT TO PLAY?
IS SOME-THING WRONG?
WHUP

AUTHOR'S NOTE 3

About four years ago (it is now 1992), in the animated series Pro Golfer Monkey, there was a handsome character named Kyoshiro Nagare. Do you remember him? I fell in love with him. (I even taped all the shows.) The supporting characters were good-looking too, in a strange way. (Like Benbachi...) Anyway, Nagare had heart trouble, so he would stumble a lot when he was golfing. There was a preview scene where Nagare was in bed, writhing in pain, but to me it always looked like he was in ecstasy.

TWEET
TWEET
TWEET
HA
HA
HA
HA
WEE
I SAID I HATED MINORU...
...BUT I DIDN'T REALLY MEAN IT.

MAM-MA...
GOOD-BYE, MINORU.
YEAH, WELL, YOU'LL DO GREAT.
IT WAS GOOD PRAC-TICE FOR ME.
THANKS FOR COMING ALONG!
TODAY WAS SO MUCH FUN! THANKS FOR BRINGING ME!
...TO A MAN WHO HAS KIDS.
SHE'S GETTING MARRIED SOON...
OH...
BYE...
GOOD-BYE, TAKUYA.



I DON'T BLAME DAD FOR GETTING MAD AT ME.

IT MUST HURT HIM TO HEAR ME SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

IT'S OKAY.
IS YOUR HEAD BETTER?
GWARA
YAY
YAY
YOU'RE THE BOY FROM THE OTHER DAY...
OH.
OH.
I'M REALLY SORRY.
YOU'VE GOT A BRUISE.
IT'S OKAY.
GU...

MI...
TUP TUP TUP
MINORU!
EEEK!
MASA!!
...AGAIN!
IT'S THAT LITTLE MENACE...
SAH
OH, YOU POOR THING?!

THIS IS THE SECOND TIME!!
WHAT DOES HE HAVE AGAINST MY SON?!
AND YOU! CAN'T YOU WATCH HIM MORE CAREFULLY?!
I'M SORRY...
DARN YOU, MINORU!
EEEK!
WHAK
WHAK
HUH?!
TUP TUP
I'M SORRY...

MINORU!!
STOP THAT!
MINORU!
WHAP
WHAP
IS HE POSSESSED?!
WHAT THE HECK?!
WHAP
GU...
WHAP
ARE YOU CRAZY?
GOOD GRIEF...
BWA...

...
SAW-WEE...
CAN YOU SAY...
...YOU'RE SORRY?
HE'S A PSYCHO-PATH!
HMPH!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
KRK
WELL...
IT BETTER NOT HAPPEN AGAIN.
HICCUP
GASP
I SAW-WEE...
I SAW-WEE...
GASP

IT'S OKAY, MINORU...
BWAZA...
SHE WASN'T BEING MEAN TO ME.
I LOVE MINORU.
LATER...
MINORU!
I HAVEN'T READ THIS MANGA YET!!

NOW HE THINKS HE CAN GET AWAY WITH MURDER--AS LONG AS HE APOLOGIZES.
I SAW-WEE...
BOW
BOW
I SAW-WEE...
MINORU'S LEARNED TO APOLOGIZE.
BOW
SAW-WEE...
I'M MINORU'S BIG BROTHER ...
OKAY...
NOW, DON'T MOVE.
THE TIMER'S SET!
TMP TMP
THERE'S AN AWFUL LOT I HAVE TO PUT UP WITH.

WRRR
HUH?
DAD...
I FEEL SOME-THING WARM...
WRRR
SWUP
MINORU!
KA-
CHAK
THERE'S SURE TO BE LOTS OF TROUBLE AHEAD...
...BUT IN THE END IT'S ALL WORTH IT. I THINK.

BABY & Me
CHAPTER TWO

Although they are protected animals, the goat antelopes damage forests by eating buds of recently planted cy-

Union trai

Farm laborers lea

A nationwide farm union is scheduled t free courses to its next fiscal year to assist the elc the success of s mental training The Central l cultural Coope the move beca number of its me having problems their farming ope

Workers

By ANGELA JEFFS

There was a reason f ranging to meet Am pro wrestler Madusa, w real name is Debor Hard Rock Cafe in Ro an image of her loc combat with King hanging off the side building could be a good s.

But by turning up in whi silk, black leather, the hig est of high heels, and a f amount of gold dangling from her wrists and neck, she soon frustrated that bright idea.

conventional mold. A friend introduced her to "a wild-looking 50-year-old stunt-man." Initially she thought he was "a real sleaze ball." He kept staring, asking if she liked her job, and whether she would rather be in the movies.

"I thou on to m wrestli whic kno fas

s the and the her

he was coming n he suggested profession in get myself ve forward Oh, he means what a jerk!" ater I was in a of the Ameri- Association." ar of touring, of- in her car, and it in order to it, disturbed at ntrol from AWA of objectives in

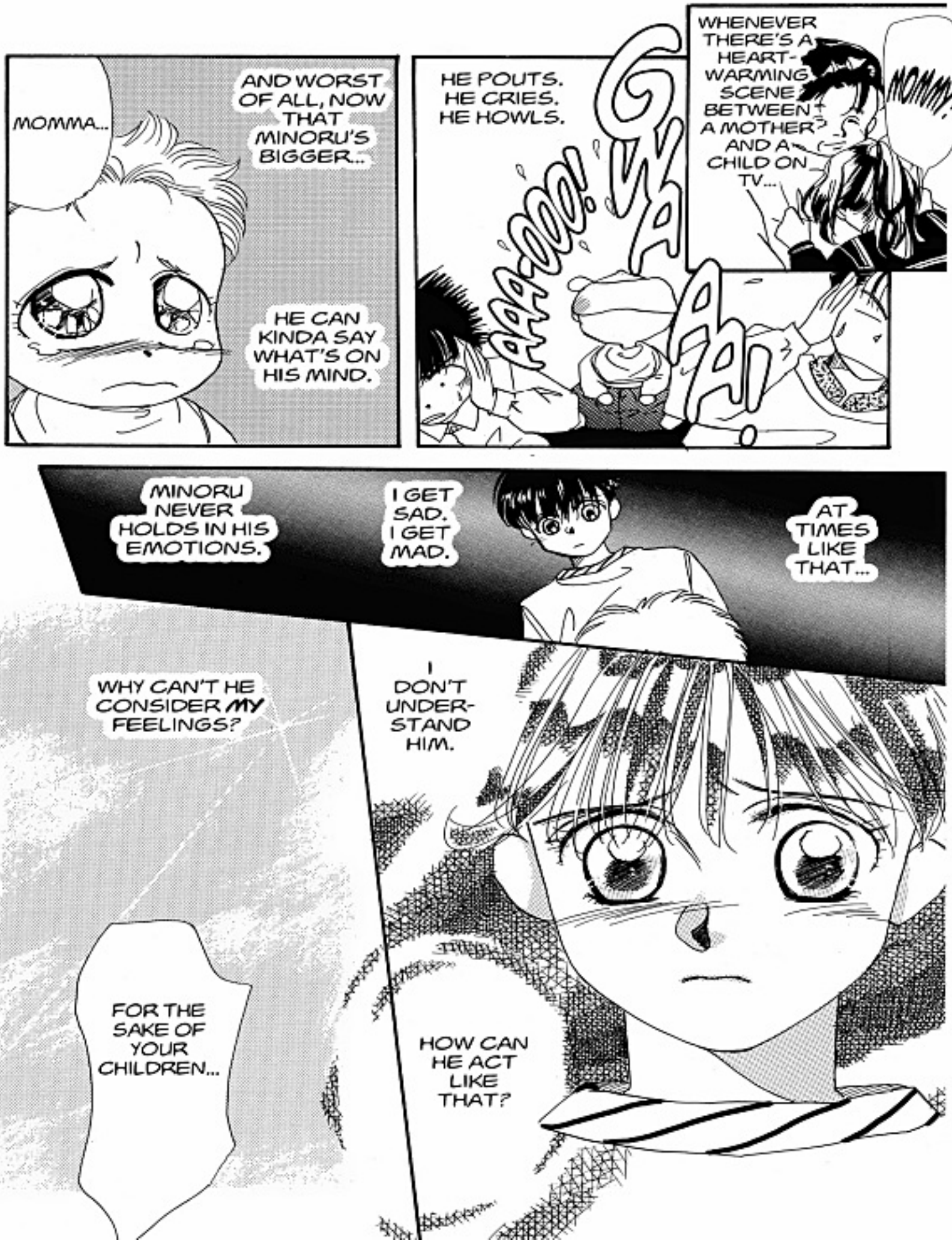
for a ut to n the offer

stler's A real S., the nour;

throw i phone r from Jap "It's dream," s honor. Bac sport was

er bers them lowing experi- ams. of Agri- made growing ers are andling erations

I'M TAKUYA ENOKI. I HAVE A BABY BROTHER NAMED MINORU.
MINORU
THE ENOKI CHILDREN HAVE NO MOTHER.
Takuya
HE'S A SELFISH BRAT, SOMETIMES.
FOR EXAMPLE...
HE GETS MAD. HE BULLIES. HE ATTACKS.
OOF!
WHEN HE SEES A MOTHER PLAYING WITH HER BABY...
MINORU-VISION


MOMMA...
AND WORST OF ALL, NOW THAT MINORU'S BIGGER...
HE CAN KINDA SAY WHAT'S ON HIS MIND.
HE POUTS. HE CRIES. HE HOWLS.
WAAA

YEAH, WELL...
THIS IS A CRUCIAL TIME IN THEIR DEVELOP-MENT.
HA HA HA HA HA
...YOU NEED TO REMARRY.
THEY NEED A WOMAN IN THEIR LIVES, NOW, WHILE THEY CAN STILL ADAPT.
BUT, MRS. KIMURA...
IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN A YEAR SINCE MY WIFE DIED.
SUNDAY AFTERNOON...
JUST MEET HER.
YOU CAN TALK ABOUT MARRIAGE LATER.
OUR NEIGHBOR, MRS. KIMURA, CAME OVER TO FIX MY DAD UP WITH SOME WOMAN.

HE KEPT SCRATCHING HIS HEAD.
DAD HAD A FUNNY LOOK ON HIS FACE.
OKAY.
JUST PUT IT IN THE DRAWER OF THE TEA CABINET, OKAY?
TAK TAK TAK TAK
HUH? SHE LIVES JUST ACROSS THE STREET. I'LL GIVE IT TO HER NEXT TIME I SEE HER.
DAD, MRS. KIMURA LEFT THIS PICTURE.
FWIP
A MAR-RIAGE MEET-ING...?
STARE

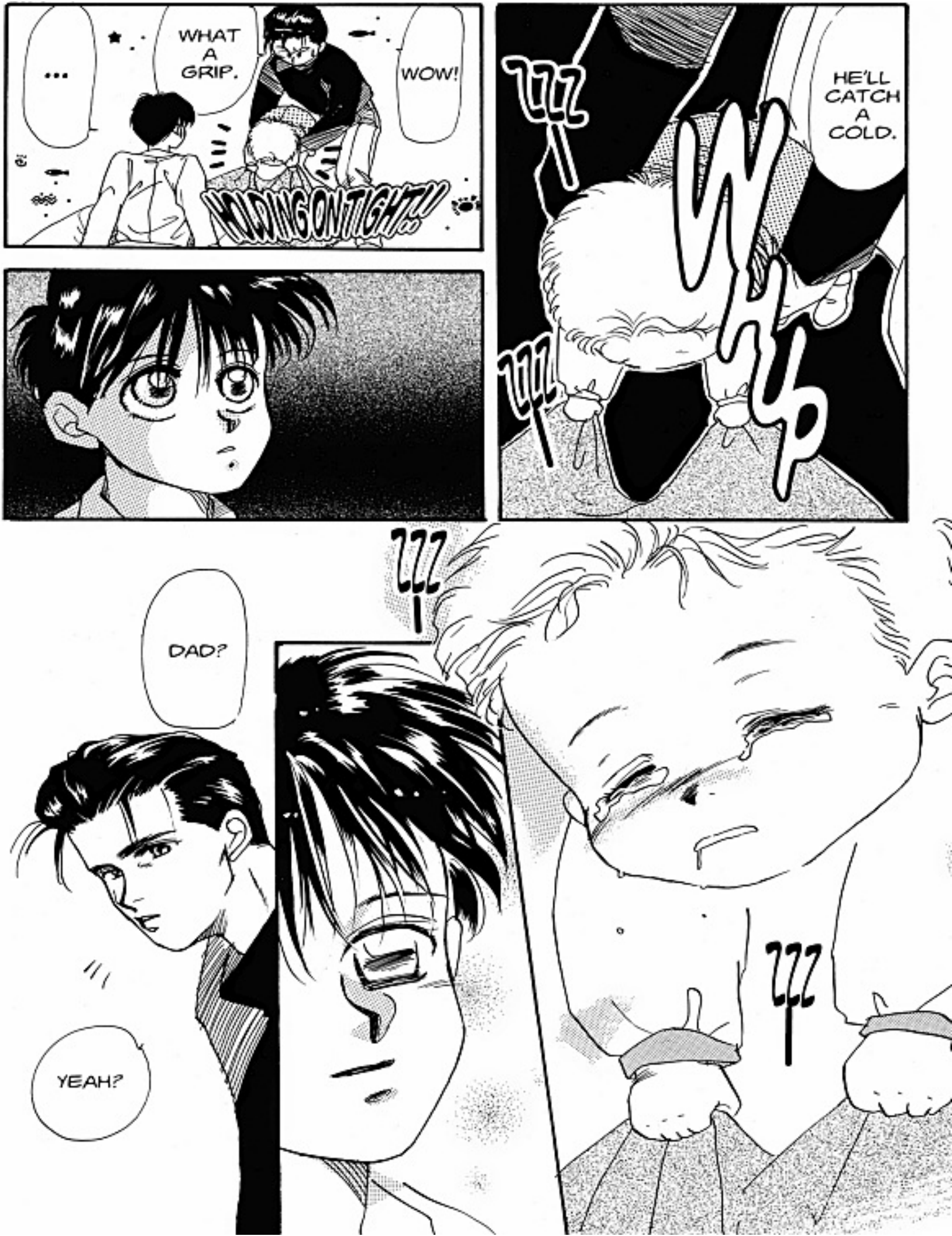
WHA...?
WHUP
WAP
BWAZA!
♡
SHE LOOKS OKAY.
HMM...
I WONDER IF DAD'S GOING TO MEET HER.
PIT-PAT PIT-PAT
BA
M
KRASH
THROB
THROB
YOUDUM!
MINORU!
HUH?
THE GLASS COULDA' BROKEN!!

A PER-FECT SCORE!
GOOD JOB, TAKUYA!
YOU IDIOT!
BWAZA?
BWAZA?
MINORU...
MINO-RU'S CRYING.
AND THEN--
UH-OH...
I WAS THE ONLY ONE THAT GOT A PERFECT SCORE!
THE TEACHER SAID SO!
OH...
HE IS SO CUTE.

HE'S ADORABLE.
BUT YOU MUST BE EXHAUSTED.
WELL, DON'T WORRY, IT GETS BETTER.
NOT YET.
DOES HE CRAWL YET?
OH, HE'S SMILING!
MOM...
WHEN SHE SAID STUFF LIKE THAT...
HOW COULD I TELL HER HOW I REALLY FELT?
OH, I'M FINE.
TAKUYA'S A BIG HELP.

SHE'S...
...GONE.
MY HEAD HURTS...
AWP
MOM...
UGH
HEY!
DAD!
MINORU!!
I'M PARALYZED?!
THAT WEIGHT!!
GRRRR
I CAN'T MOVE!!

ZZZ
ZZZ
GEEZ...
...
ZZZ
MINO-RU...
WHY ARE YOU SLEEPING ON TOP OF ME?
ZZZ
ZZZ
HE CRIED WHEN-EVER I TRIED TO MOVE HIM.
DAD, MINO-RU'S...
THANK GOOD-NESS. I WAS AFRAID YOU WERE IN A COMA.
ZZZ
ZZZ
YOU'RE AWAKE!
TAKUYA...


...
WHAT A GRIP.
WOW!
HOLDING ON TIGHT...!!
HE'LL CATCH A COLD.
ZZZ
WHAP
ZZZ
ZZZ
DAD?
YEAH?
ZZZ

ARE YOU GOING TO HAVE A MARRIAGE MEETING?
I HAVEN'T DECI-DED YET.
HERK
MINO-RU'S...
...BEEN SAYING "MOMMA."
I...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WHEN HE DOES THAT.
HE DOESN'T UNDER-STAND YET, SON.
ZZZ
HE'S JUST AN INNO-CENT BABY.

IN TIME, HE'LL UNDERSTAND THAT HIS MOTHER IS GONE.
ZZZ
MINORU HAS A LOT TO LEARN.
BUT YOU ALREADY UNDERSTAND.
ZZZ
YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS?
I GUESS...
IT'S MY JOB TO WORRY ABOUT YOU AND YOUR BROTHER.
PAT
DON'T WORRY SO MUCH, TAKUYA.
I ALREADY UNDERSTAND...
BUT HE DOESN'T YET.
I'M YOUR FATHER.

AUTHOR'S NOTE 4

YOSHIZO THE RABBIT

IN LATE 1991, I BOUGHT A RABBIT IN SHINJUKU. I LIVED BY MYSELF AND WAS FEELING LONELY. THE MAN AT THE PET STORE SAID, "HE WON'T GET BIG. HE'LL LEARN TO USE THE POTTY. HIS URINE DOESN'T SMELL. HIS FOOD IS CHEAP." AND I BELIEVED HIM. HE ASKED FOR 3,000 YEN, BUT AFTER SOME HAGGLING, HE AGREED ON 2,000. IT'S BEEN TWO MONTHS NOW, AND THE RABBIT'S TWICE AS BIG AS HE WAS, AND HE RELIEVES HIMSELF ALL OVER THE PLACE. (AND IT SMELLS!)

*IN JAPAN, OCTOBER 10TH IS OFFICIAL "HEALTH SPORTS DAY."

YOU CAN HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANT.
DON'T MESS UP THE LAUN-DRY!
HEY, MINORU!
WHEE...
MINORU!
HUH?
THINK OF SOME-THING.
I'D REALLY LIKE TO GO TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK TOO.
TOSHIMAEN...
SEIBUEN...
PUROLAND...
DISNEYLAND...
THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I'D LIKE...
A MOUNTAIN BIKE...
SPORTS SHOES...
WHAT SHOULD I ASK FOR?

LIKE WE DID...
...LAST YEAR...
...AS A FAMILY.
DING-DONG
DING-DONG
DING-DONG
WHAT?!
DING-DONG-DING-DONG
IT'S ALREADY NINE O'CLOCK!!
I NEVER AGREED TO THIS!
J-JUST A MINUTE!

DAD?
PLEASE, FOR MY SAKE...
JUST MEET HER. AFTER THAT, IF YOU'RE NOT INTERESTED, I'LL LET HER KNOW.
RIGHT NOW? BUT I'M NOT EVEN...!
WELL, APPARENTLY THE OTHER PARTY DIDN'T GET THE WORD...
SHE'S WAITING TO MEET YOU!
HUH?!
BUT TODAY IS MY...
I'LL TRY TO BE HOME BY THE AFTERNOON!!
TAKUYA!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I HAVE TO GO OUT FOR A WHILE.
TMP
TMP
THE MARRIAGE MEETING?
YEAH...
I'LL BE HOME AS SOON AS I CAN, OKAY?

HE'S A VERY SENSI-BLE BOY...
...KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ME.
SHE DOESN'T...
...
TAKUYA'S A VERY SENSIBLE BOY.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, ISN'T IT?
54 YEARS OLD
I HATE EVERY-BODY!!
AND THIS IS...
FUMIYO SAITO.
THEY DON'T CARE ...
...HOW I FEEL.
HERE.
CALL THE NUMBER ON THIS PAPER!!
TAKUYA, IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, UM...
WHERE WAS THIS NOW?

HOW CAN I GET OUT OF THIS?
HMM...
UH... THE PLEA-SURE'S MINE.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
NOD
TINKE-TINK
HUFF
HUFF
TMP TMP
WHIR
WHIR
IT'S ON THE THIRD FLOOR.
EXCUSE ME. WHERE'S THE CRYSTAL RESTAUR-ANT?
HUFF HUFF
WHERE'S DAD?
HUFF
HUFF

OOF!
SPLAT
BWAZA!
BWAZA!
TUP TUP TUP
BWAZA...
TMP
THE THIRD FLOOR..
BWAZA!!
QUIVER
GULP.
WUZZ
OH...
WUZZ

HMM.
HO--
TMPTMP-TMP
EXCUSE ME!
JUST A MOMENT, KID!
YOU CAN'T JUST BARGE IN THERE.
COME BACK HERE.
OH!!
DAD!!

WOOSH
HEY!!
FUMIYO IS HIGHLY SKILLED IN FLOWER ARRANGING.
THAT VOICE...
?!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
TAKUYA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
OH MY...
KLUNK
TAKUYA...

...
...WHAT-EVER I WANTED.
YOU SAID I COULD HAVE...
WHAT IS IT?
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
...NEEDS A MOTHER, I'LL BE THAT.
IF MINO-RU...
I'LL TEACH HIM EVERY-THING HE NEEDS TO KNOW.
I...
DON'T HAVE A MARRIAGE MEETING!!
PLEASE...

NOT YET.
I DON'T WANT A NEW MOTHER!!
I ONLY HAVE ONE MOTHER IN THIS WORLD!!
HEY...
TAKUYA...

I ONLY HAVE...
...ONE WIFE IN THIS WORLD TOO.
WHOOSH!!
SNIFF
WAAAH!!
OH...
HE CAME TO THE FRONT DESK WITH HIS BROTHER.
HUH?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, KID?
AW, GEEZ..
WAAAH
WAAAH

MINORU!
BWAZA...?
WAAH!
PLEASE DON'T CRY. WE'LL FIND YOUR BROTHER.
SOB
YEAH, BWAZA.
WHERE'S HIS BROTHER?
HE WANTED TO KNOW WHERE THE RESTAURANT WAS.
MAYBE THAT'S WHERE HE WENT.
BWAZA!
WAAH
BWAZA!
HEY!! WHO'S THE BABY?
WE'RE LOOKING FOR HIS BROTHER.
WHAT?!
I LEFT MINORU SOMEWHERE!
KA-DOOM
BWAZA!
DEH! DEH!
WHAT?! WHERE?
WHUP
WHUP

BWAZA!
MINORU!!
BWAZA!
SLAP SLAP
AAAGH!
TUMP
SHOOM
PIT-PAT
PIT-PAT
WAP
SPEECH
KRASH
...
KLANK
EEEK!
WHOOSH

YOU LITTLE BRAT!!
SWISH
WHY, YOU...
GLARE
GULP
MY KIMONO'S RUINED!! IT'S NOT EVEN PAID FOR YET!
OH!!
OH, DEAR..
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
OH...
OW...
OH OH!
BWAZA?
SWISH

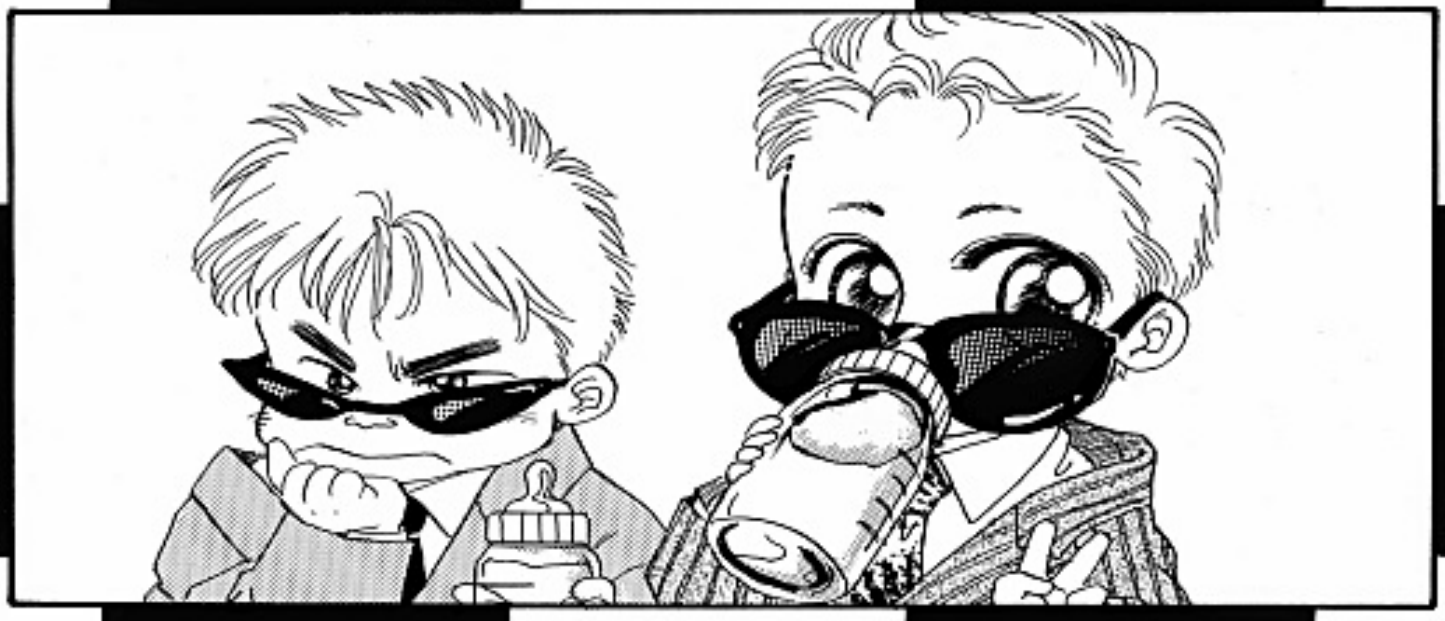
I'M SO SORRY... I...
OH, UM...
...
HAAH!
...
WHOOP
TAKUYA, MINORU, LET'S GO.
KLAK
BANG
PIT-PAT
PLEASE TAKE THIS FOR YOUR DRY-CLEANING.
PARDON ME.

BWA-ZA...
I GUESS SO.
SHE MADE YOU BITE IT.
AW...
DAD...
I THINK MY TONGUE'S BLEED-ING
...GO WAY!
OWWIE, OWWIE...
OWWIE, OWWIE...
...GO WAY!

NO, I WASN'T...
YOU WERE REALLY COOL, TAKING THAT SLAP FOR HIM.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRY TO BE HIS MOTHER.
YOU'RE A GOOD BROTHER, TAKUYA.
...
YOU KNOW, MINORU LOVES YOU JUST THE WAY YOU ARE.
SHALL WE GO TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK?
REALLY? BUT YOU'RE WEARING A SUIT.
SO WHAT? IT'S TAKUYA'S BIRTHDAY. RIGHT, MINORU?
WHEE...

BABY & ME™

CHAPTER THREE



...WE HAD FISH.
LAST NIGHT, FOR DINNER...
GRILLED FISH NEEDS SOY SAUCE.
WHOOO!!
PHEW
WE RAN OUT OF SOY SAUCE, SO THE FISH DIDN'T TASTE SO GREAT.
THIS SOY SAUCE IS CHEAP!! I'LL BUY SOME ON MY WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL.
SANKO STORE
AM 10:00 ~ PM
ONE PER CUSTOMER
WADAKON SOY SAUCE
50 OZ ONLY ¥168!
SALAD OIL
50 OZ ¥248
COSCAFE
200 G ¥798
I SAW AN AD IN THIS MORNING'S PAPER.
GEEZ, I REALLY HAVE STARTED TO THINK LIKE A HOUSEWIFE...
KOFF
TAKUYA'S MOM DIED.

POOR THING!!
HE'S SUCH A NICE GUY!
SWUP
THAT'S HIS BABY BROTHER.
MRMR
MRMR
MRMR
I SAW HIM WITH A LITTLE KID THE OTHER DAY.
DON'T YOU FEEL SORRY FOR ME? I HAVE IT ROUGH TOO.
GON...
I HAVE TO BABYSIT A LOT TOO. ALL THE TIME.
HUH?
YOU'RE NOT PLAYING FAIR.
LET'S GO HOME...
HEY, GON!
SORRY—
WE ONLY FEEL SORRY FOR CUTE BOYS.
...

HIRO'S THE BABY OF OUR FAMILY-- ABOUT MINORU'S AGE.
WHO'S HIRO?
I NEVER WATCH HIRO.
YOU REALLY TAKE GOOD CARE OF THAT KID, HUH?
I HAVE TO GET MINORU.
WE'RE GONNA PLAY BASEBALL. WANNA PLAY?
LIKE I SAID, I DON'T TAKE CARE OF HIRO.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE AN ONLY CHILD!
WHAT?!
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
I WONDER IF HIRO'S AS SCARY-LOOKING AS GON...
SKREECH
UWAAH
WUZZ
WUZZ

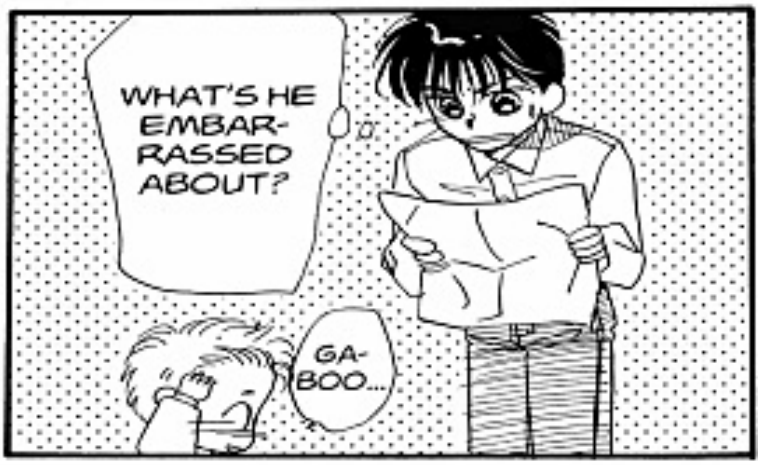
...

GA...

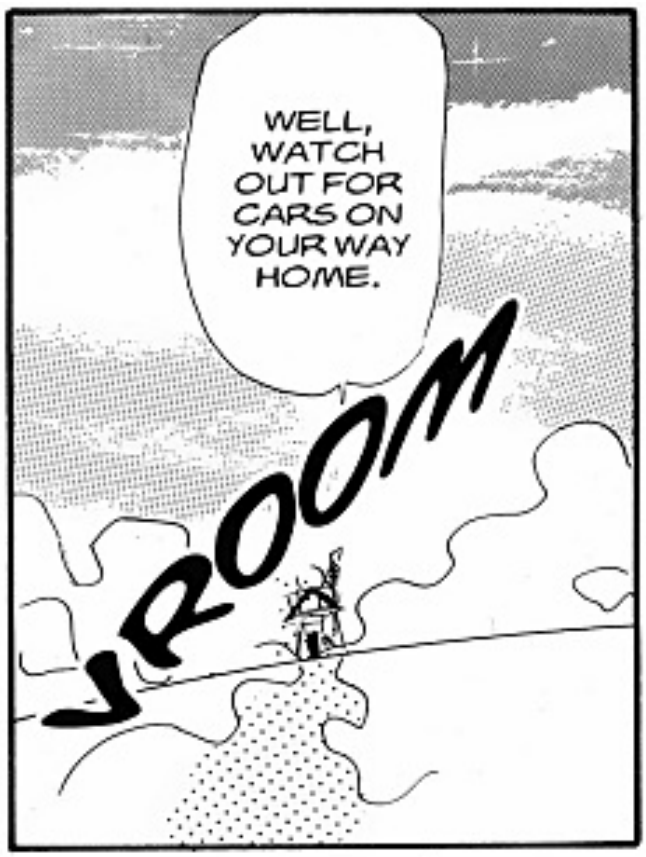
ME?

MINORU DREW A PICTURE OF YOU.
WHAT'S THIS?

BWAZA.


WHAT'S HE EMBAR-RASSED ABOUT?
GA-BOO...

PUTT
PUTT
PUTT
PUTT
PUTT
PUTT
THAT WAS A GOOD BOW, MINORU.
HEE...
SWFF
SWFF
SAY HELLO, MINORU.
HELLO.
HEWO.
BOW
TAKUYA...
OH...
WHAT A LITTLE GENTLE-MAN!
OH, YOU'RE GON'S MOM.
HELLO.
PUTT
PUTT
PUTT


WELL, WATCH OUT FOR CARS ON YOUR WAY HOME.
VROOM

TADASHI IS USE-LESS.
...TO HAVE A BIG BROTHER WHO TEACHES HIM THINGS.
HE'S LUCKY...

I WISH YOU WOULD RUB OFF ON HIM A LITTLE.
HE DOESN'T HELP AROUND THE STORE, AND HE NEVER LOOKS AFTER HIRO.

TADASHI!
OTOH LIQUOR
YOU LEFT HIRO ALL ALONE!!
SO? HIRO'S AN UGLY LITTLE PAIN!

SHE LIKES TO TALK.
JUST LIKE MOM.
WOW...
MOMMA?

. . . .
THIS IS A BEAUTIFUL CHILD!
DON'T SAY THAT!
WHUP
MOM, YOU NEED GLASSES.
THAT'S RIGHT!
ALL DAY?!
TMP
TMP
TADASHI, TOMORROW'S SUNDAY. YOU'RE GOING TO LOOK AFTER HIRO ALL DAY LONG.
I'M NOT GONNA BABYSIT THAT MONSTER!
THIS KID LOOKS POSSESSED...
TWEEK
WHA

HEY, THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA!
HEH HEH HEH
TAKUYA TAKES SUCH GOOD CARE OF HIS LITTLE BROTHER. IF ONLY HIRO HAD A BROTHER LIKE THAT.
I'LL GIVE HIRO TO TAKUYA!
SHIVER
?
TAKUYA!
COME OUT AND PLAY!!
HUH?
IT'S GON. THAT'S WEIRD.
TMP TMP

SNUP
HA...
THEY LOOK EXACTLY ALIKE!
GON
HIRO
CHUCKLE
HOW FUNNY!
THIS IS HIRO, THE DEVIL CHILD.
HMM...
UNDO
I'VE BROUGHT YOU A PLAYMATE.
BOOM
HEY, MINORU.
MINORU, WHAT NOW?
HE'S ALWAYS FOLLOWING ME.
BWAZA!
TUP TUP TUP

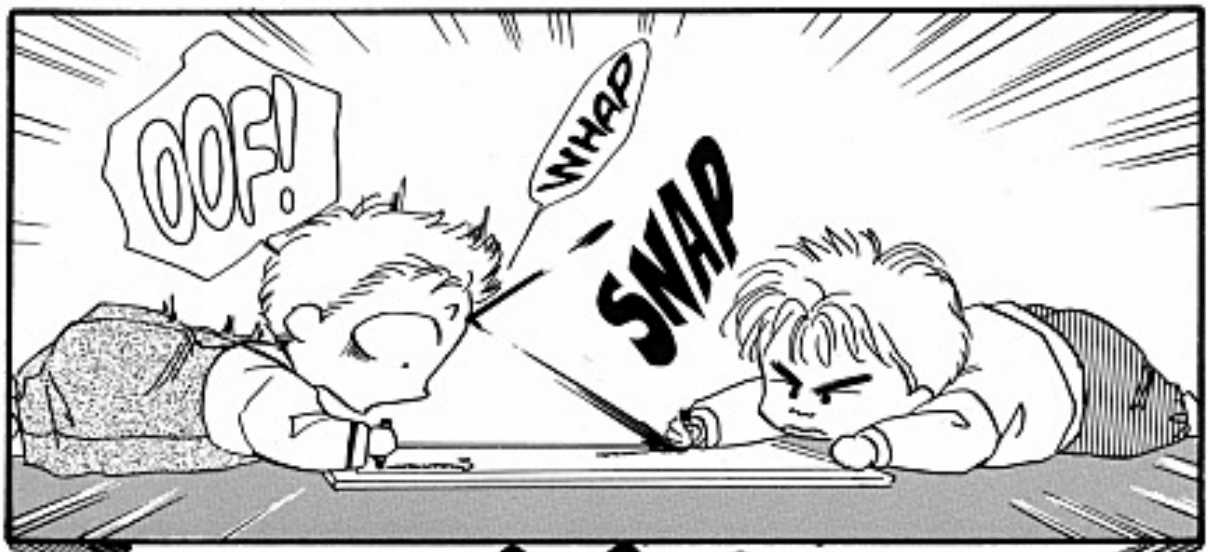
HUH?
IF THIS KID WOULD PLAY NICELY WITH MINORU...
GREAT. THEY'RE FAST FRIENDS.
...
SHIVER
WAP
HUH?
IT'S NOTHING. THEY'RE HAVING FUN.
OW...
HIRO, THAT'S ENOUGH! HE KNOWS YOU LIKE HIM!!
I COULD RELAX!!
SIGH
WAP WAP WAP WAP
UGH
UGH
TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIRO.
OKAY...

GEEZ...
WHAT?
WOOOOO
WHAT?!
GON MUST HAVE IT ROUGH...
LA... ♫
LA... ♫
SKNIK SKNIK SKNIK
SO HE DROPPED HIRO OFF WITH ME.
HE PROBABLY HAS TO GO MIND HIS FAMILY'S STORE OR SOMETHING.
OH...
I GET IT.

AUTHOR'S NOTE 5

YOSHIZO THE RABBIT PART 2

THE LITTLE GROUP OF RABBITS THAT WERE BEING SOLD UNDER THE COLD MID-WINTER SKY HUDDLED TOGETHER IN A BOX. I WAS FORCED TO BUY THE ONLY ONE THAT WAS HOPPING AROUND. HE WAS A LITTLE BIGGER THAN THE REST, AND LOOKED A BIT GRUBBY. AT THE TIME I THOUGHT THE LIVELIER THE RABBIT THE BETTER, BUT HE NIBBLED HOLES IN MY JEANS AND CHEWED UP MY BOOKS. I GOT MAD AND PUT HIM IN AN ORANGE BOX, BUT BY THE NEXT MORNING HE HAD CHEWED HIS WAY OUT THROUGH THE SIDE AND RUN AWAY.



OWWIE, OWWIE, GO AWAY...
UWAAAH!
UNH...
HE PRETENDS HE DOESN'T CARE, BUT HE LOOKS LONELY.
HIRO...
TUMP
TUMP

TADASHI!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH HIRO?!
I WONDER WHAT GON'S DOING...
HMM...

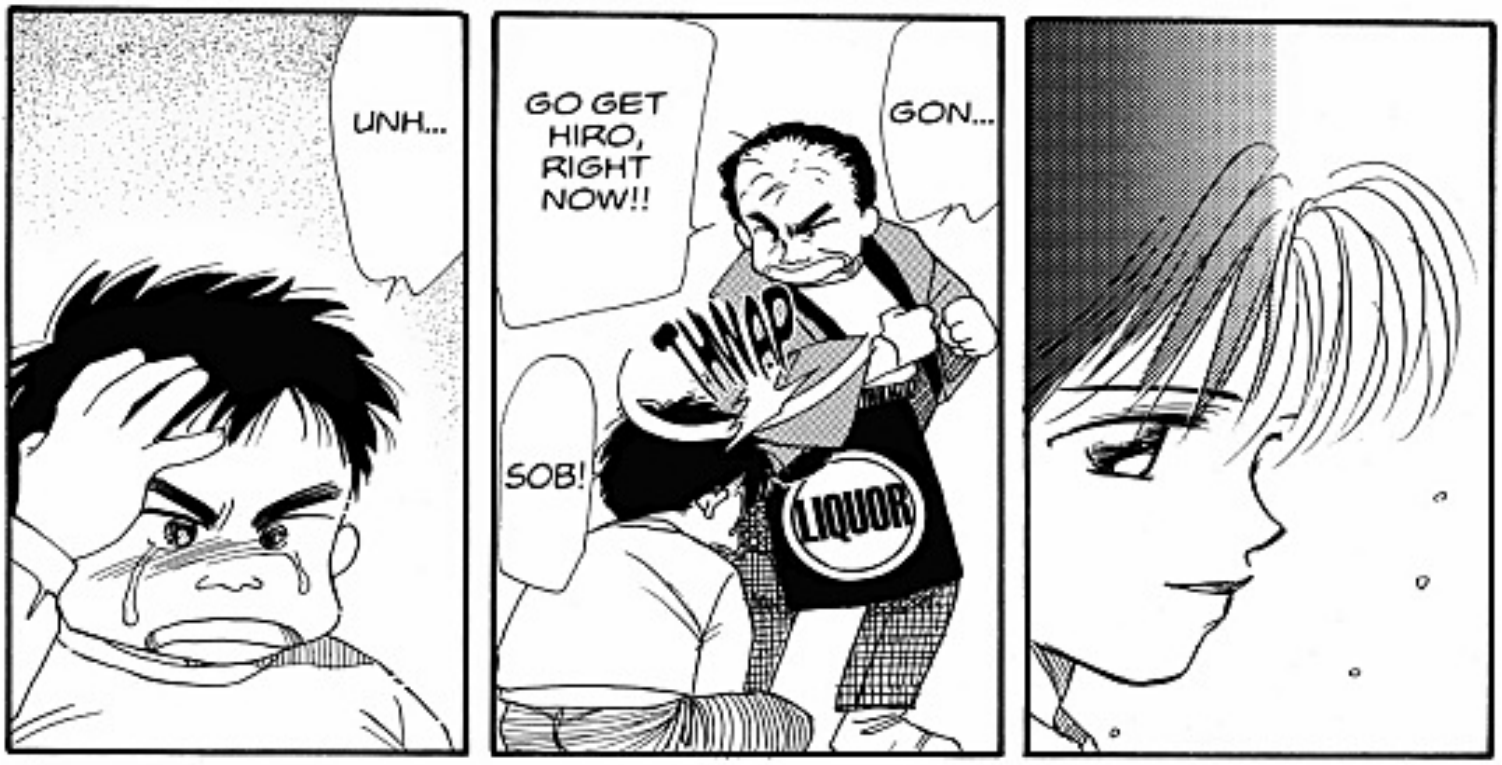
WHAT?!
QUIT YELLING! DON'T WORRY, I TOOK HIRO TO SOMEONE WHO'S AN EXPERT AT TAKING CARE OF KIDS.
YOU'RE GONNA GET MORE WRINKLES.

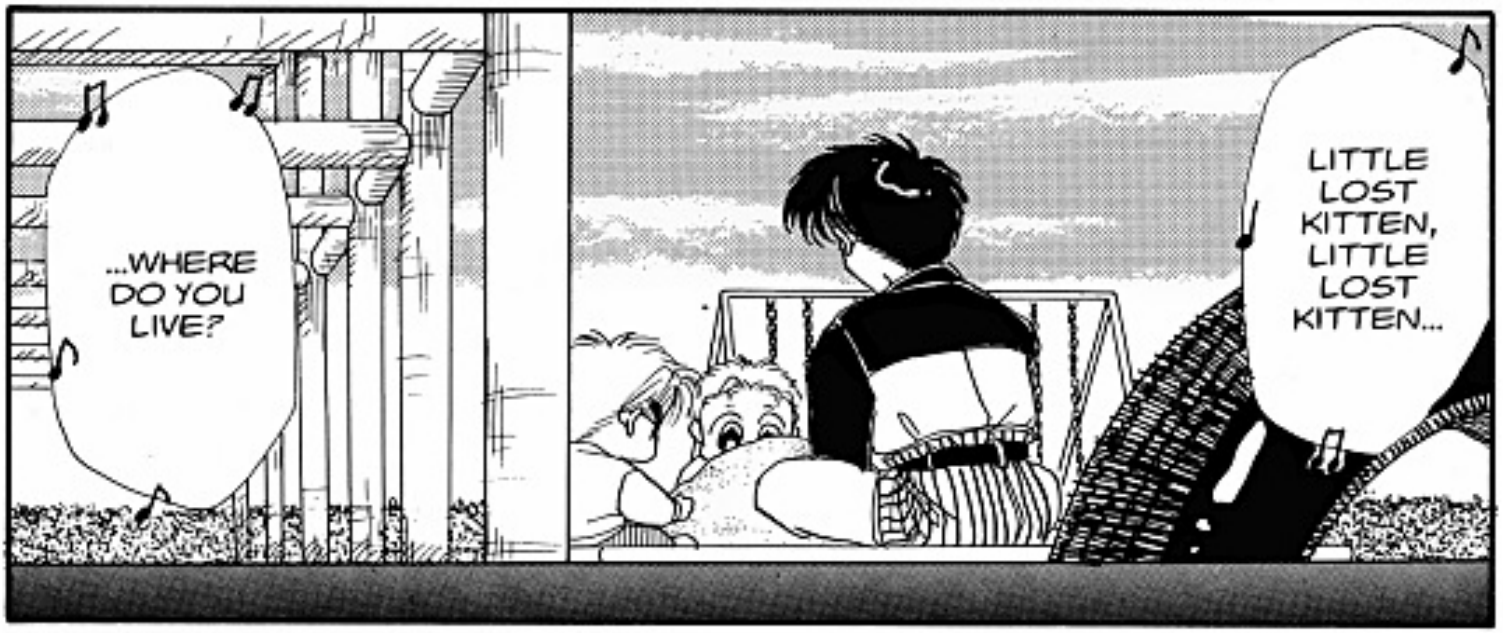
WHY CAN'T YOU BE MORE LIKE TAKUYA?!
DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT HIRO?
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?! HOW COULD YOU DO THAT?!
SHAKE
SHAKE
OW!
OW!

HEY, WHAT'S ALL THE YELLING ABOUT?
DAD...
WHAT?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FEEL SORRY FOR HIRO ANYMORE!
HIRO'S WITH TAKUYA AT HIS HOUSE!!
SO I MUST NOT BE QUALIFIED TO BE A BIG BROTHER, RIGHT?!
...HIRO WOULD BE HAPPIER WITH A BIG BROTHER LIKE TAKUYA.
MOM SAID...
YOUR SON DUMPED HIRO WITH TAKUYA!
HUH?
WELL, YOU SEE...
WHY'D YOU DO THAT?

HOW CAN I COMPETE WITH A FREAK LIKE THAT?!
HE'S NICE.
BUT ANYBODY'D BE GLAD TO HAVE TAKUYA FOR A BIG BROTHER.
AND HE'S SMART...
AND ALL THE GIRLS IN OUR CLASS LIKE HIM.
HE TAKES GOOD CARE OF HIS LITTLE BROTHER AND HE HELPS OUT AROUND THE HOUSE!!
YOU THINK HE TAKES CARE OF HIS BROTHER AND DOES HOUSE-WORK BECAUSE HE WANTS TO?
WHAT?
TAKUYA HAS NO CHOICE!
!!
SNIFF

YOU'RE SO SELFISH, TADASHI.
THAT BOY HAS A HARD LIFE!


UNH...
GO GET HIRO, RIGHT NOW!!
GON...
THWAP
SOB!
LIQUOR

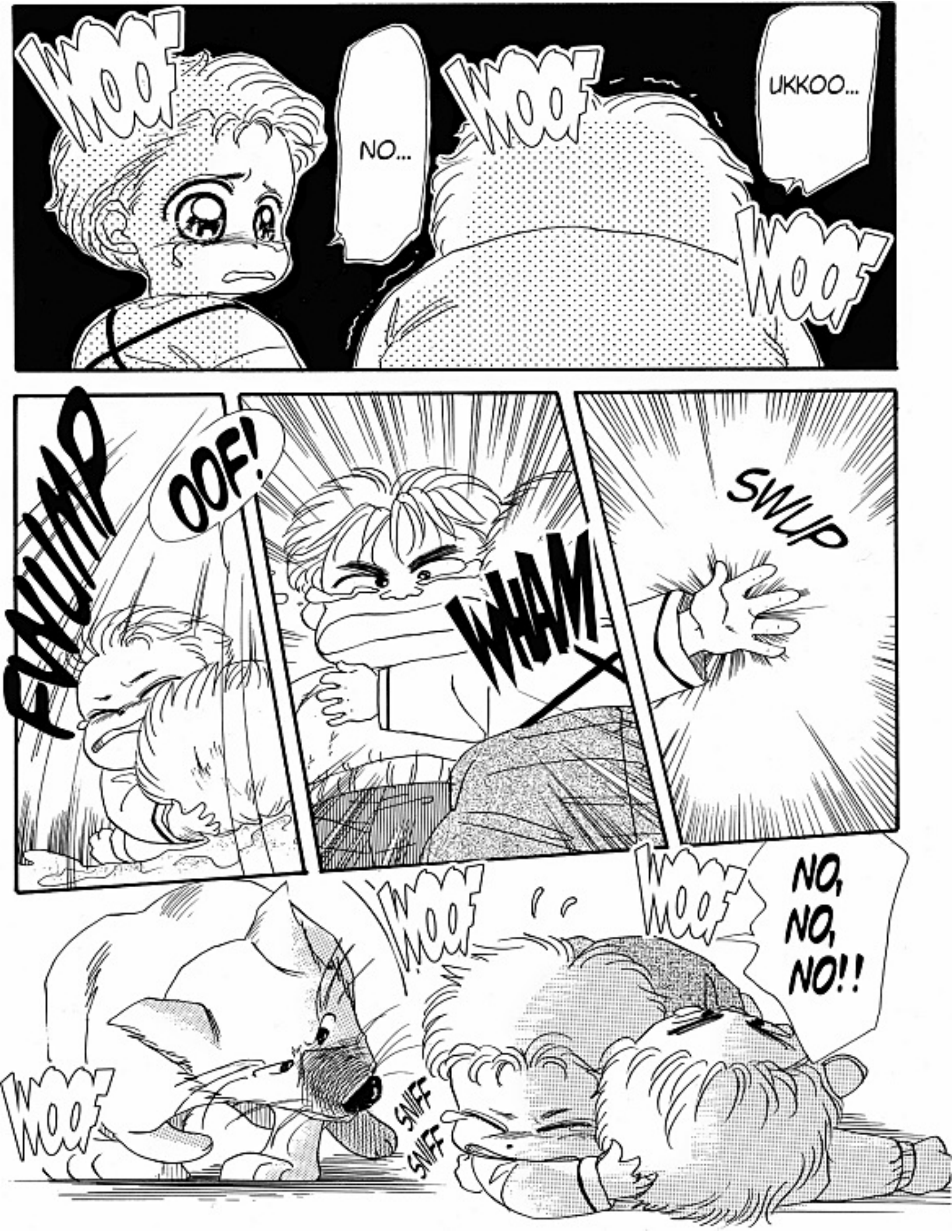

...WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
LITTLE LOST KITTEN, LITTLE LOST KITTEN...

...
PAT PAT
YOU'RE A GOOD BOY, HIRO. YOU NEVER CRY.
MEOW, MEOW, MEOW, MEOW...
HE ASKED FOR HER NAME, BUT THE KITTEN DIDN'T KNOW...
OH.
YOU CRY A LITTLE TOO MUCH.
MINO-RU...
BOW-WOW! BOW-WOW!
I'M GLAD I FOUND YOU!
HUFF
HUFF
HEY...
GASP
GASP
HEY, GON!

I'M SORRY.
UM... TAKUYA...
ARE YOU HERE TO GET HIRO?
TUP TUP TUP
UH...
SAY
WELL...
...WHAT-EVER...
...
WHAT FOR?

Yikes! I can't draw a dog!
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TUMP
BOW-WOW!!
BOW-WOW!!
BWAZA!!
BWAZA!!
woof woof
HUH?

SHOOM
HIRO!!
IT'S THAT STUPID FRANCES!!
HEY!
WHOA!
SHUMP
HEY, GON!!
OOO...
LET GO OF ME!
HELP ME, TAKUYA!! I'M CAUGHT IN THE BUSHES!!


WOOF
NO...
WOOF
UKKOO...
WOOF
POUNCE
OOF!
WHAM!
SWIPE
WOOF
WOOF
NO, NO, NO!!
WOOF
SNIFF SNIFF

WAAAH!
GASP
STOP PICKING ON LITTLE KIDS, YOU STUPID MUTT!!
YIPE!
TMP
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS!!
MINORU...

WAAAH!!
MINO-RU...
SOB...
SOB...
SHAKE
SHAKE
YOU WERE GREAT, MINORU!!
GASP...
WAP
BWAZA!!

...

LET'S GO HOME, HIRO.
NOD

SNIFF...

I'M SURE HIRO THINKS THE SAME.
I COULD NEVER BE LIKE YOU.
SUDDENLY HE LOOKS OFF INTO THE DISTANCE.
...

YOU REALLY ARE A GOOD BIG BROTHER.

TAKUYA...

HIRO'S REALLY CUTE.
GON...
YOU KNOW...
THIS KID?
CUTE?
WHAT GIRL?
A GIRL?
ANYWAY, YOU'RE A REAL HERO, MINORU, THE WAY YOU PROTECTED A GIRL WITH YOUR OWN BODY. THAT MAKES YOU A MAN AMONG MEN.
HIRO MISSED YOU ALL DAY.

HER REAL NAME'S HIROKO.
SWIP
HUH? HIRO, OF COURSE!
OH...
SHE LOOKS LIKE A GIRL, DOESN'T SHE?
W-WELL, YEAH...
WHEN YOU INTRODUCE YOURSELF, DO YOU SAY, "HI, I'M A BOY"?
B-B-BUT...
...I DIDN'T KNOW HIRO WAS A GIRL!
GA...

HIRO...
HIROKO'S...
SMACK
...IN LOVE WITH MINORU.
...AND BY THE LOOK OF TERROR ON HIS FACE, SO DID MINORU.
BUT I HAD MIXED FEELINGS...
THEN GON AND HIRO HEADED FOR HOME.
WELL, THEY HAVE MY BLESSING.

CHAPTER 3/THE END

BABY & Me™
CHAPTER FOUR

SKWEEK
SKWEEK
HEE
MARKER
HAH...
TUP
TUP
TUP
WIP
WIP
SPOOKY...

MINORU!
SWAK
YOU CAN'T WRITE ON WALLS!
HUMPH!
OWIE...
NOW HE'S GIVING ME A DIRTY LOOK!!
EVERY DAY IT'S SOMETHING NEW.
I'M GOING TO ORGANIZE MY PICTURES, SO BEHAVE.
O-KAY...
...IS AT A MIS-CHIEVOUS AGE.
LOOKS LIKE MINORU...

BMP
FSH
HE DOESN'T MEAN TO BE BAD.
SKWEEK
SKWEEK
HUH?!
OH!
OH!
WIP
NO!

DADDY'S HOME!
SKWEEK

HUH?
NO AN-SWER...
SILENCE
I'M HOME...
SOB
HIC
SOB
SOB
MINORU?
ISN'T YOUR BRO-THER HOME?
SOB
MINO-RU?
WHAT'S WRONG?
FWASH
KLIK
HIC
SOB
SOB

WAAH...
MINO...
WHY DID YOU HIT MINORU?!
HIS CHEEK IS BRIGHT RED! HE'S JUST A BABY!!
BAM
TAKUYA!!
TAKUYA!

HE RUINED THE PICTURE!
GLARE
HE...
HE RUINED THAT PICTURE OF ME AND MOM.
YOU DID A VERY BAD THING, MINORU.
YEAH..
HMM...
SNIFF

I SAW-WEE...
BWAZA..
WAP
NO!!
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!!
WAAH...
WIP
TAKUYA DOESN'T GET MAD EASILY, BUT WHEN HE DOES...
WAAA
...
MINORU HAS NO IDEA...
...HOW MUCH THAT PICTURE MEANT TO ME!!

HE GOT MARKER ALL OVER IT!
SNIFF
IT WAS REALLY, REALLY SPECIAL...
...THAT PICTURE OF MOM AND ME!!
OH...
OH, I KNOW!
I DON'T HAVE ANY PAINT THIN-NER.
HIC!
SNIFF
I THINK YUKAKO HAD SOME IN HER DRAWER.
NAIL POLISH RE-MOVER SHOULD DO THE TRICK.
SNAP

IT'S GONNA BE FINE.
SKWIK SKWIK
DON'T WORRY.
DON'T WORRY, MINORU.
TMP TMP
GOT IT.
HAHAHA...
SKWIK SKWIK
WAP
DA-DA.
HA...?
HIC
WE'LL CHEER UP BIG BROTHER.
UNH?
DAB DAB
SNIFF
DOOM
WHAT DID I DO?
AW, GEEZ..
WUH?
KRAH!

GOOD MORNING, MINORU...
GOO...
...MO-NIN'...
HE GOT IN A FIGHT WITH TAKUYA.
WELL, ER..
SNIFF
MINORU'S GOT A LONG FACE TODAY.
PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM.
I WILL.
HAVE A GOOD DAY AT WORK.
BACK OF SCHOOL
I TALKED TO MINORU'S FATHER THIS MORNING.
YOU DID?
HEE HEE HEE...
SO, YOU HAD A FIGHT WITH YOUR BRO-THER?
IT'S OKAY. CHEER UP.
UH...
SNUFF SNUFF

LET'S ALL WORK HARD TODAY!
ALL RIGHT...
KLIK
DID EVERYONE LEARN THE PONKIKKI EXERCISE?
OUR RECITAL IS TO-MORROW, YOU KNOW.
YACK
YACK
YEAH!
ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE. COME HERE, PLEASE.
KLAP
KLAP
YOU'RE RIGHT. BUT HE SEEMS SO SAD TODAY.
MINORU LOOKS LIKE HE'S LINE DANCING.
HE'S THE ONLY ONE DANCING DIFFERENTLY.
PONKIKKI
PONKIKKI
HEY...
WHAT?

TAKUYA, WHAT'S THE ANSWER TO PROBLEM 4?
WUSP
WUSP
TEK TEK
MAYBE I WAS TOO HARD ON HIM...
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
...
Problem 1.
Choose a word from Section A that fits into the blanks in the sentences.
How did you feel abou
(10 points)
The
was
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
Problem
he hero
and
reason
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
I CAN'T CONCEN-TRATE...
TAKUYA...! PROBLEM 4...!
MINORU...
I WONDER WHAT HE'S DOING NOW...

SUNFLOWER KINDERGARTEN RECITAL PROGRAM
THIS IS THE PROGRAM FOR THE RECITAL.
HERE...
THERE'S NO TALKING DURING THE TEST.
SIT BACK.
TADASHI.
OH.
OH...
OKAY...
LET'S GO HOME.
MINO-RU.
ANGRY
YOUR BROTHER'S HERE, MINORU.
THAT LOOK...
STARE

HE'S NOT GONNA LET GO.
HMPH
WAP
UNH...
PIT-PAT
...
WELL...
TAKUYA...
ARE YOU READY TO FORGIVE MINORU YET?
FINE. I'LL JUST IGNORE HIM.
SNNUFF
SNNUFF

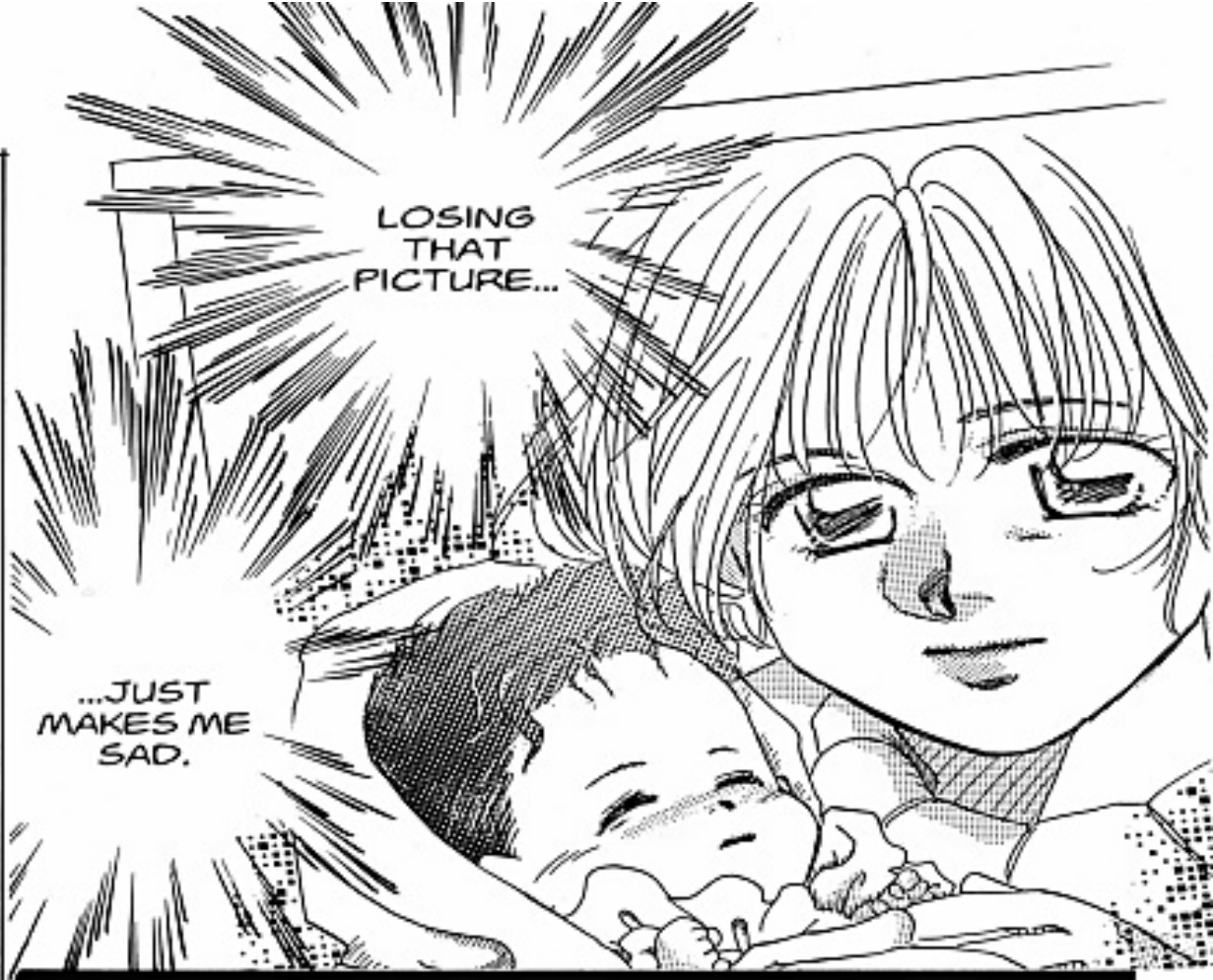
PLOOSH
EATING FERMENTED BEANS
WHERE'S THAT PICTURE?
AH-TCHOO!
FERMENTED BEAN
...
OH, TAKUYA! I'M SORRY!
BA... BA...
THIS SUCKS.
DOOM
SLIMED
OH...
SNIFF

GASP
GLARE
I'M NOT GOING TO MINORU'S RECITAL TOMORROW!!
SO THERE!!
AND I'M NOT GONNA PICK HIM UP!!
ACTUALLY, I'M NOT SO MAD...
...AT MINORU ANYMORE.
BUT...
HE'S STILL JUST A KID.
I'M DONE EATING.
SO THERE...?

AUTHOR'S NOTE 6

I LIVE IN A RUNDOWN APARTMENT WITH NO BATHTUB OR SHOWER, SO I HAVE TO USE A PUBLIC BATHHOUSE. THERE ARE TWO BATHHOUSES I FREQUENT--BATHHOUSE S AND BATHHOUSE N. I ALWAYS GO FOR A BATH AROUND 11:00 AT NIGHT, SO I TEND TO ENCOUNTER THE SAME FACES. EACH BATHHOUSE HAS ITS OWN IRRITATING OLD LADY. I CALL THE ONE AT BATHHOUSE S "SHOWER CAP" BECAUSE SHE ALWAYS WEARS A PLASTIC SHOWER CAP. SHE ALWAYS SITS IN THE SAME PLACE, AND IF ANYONE SPLASHES HER SHE SAYS, "FILTHY! SLOPPY!" SHE CALLED ME SLOPPY ONCE--BUT I COULDN'T HELP IT!

I CALL THE OLD LADY AT BATHHOUSE N YONEKO MATSUYANE BECAUSE SHE REMINDS ME OF THE ACTRESS. EVEN WHEN THE BATHROOM IS PRACTICALLY EMPTY, SHE'LL SIT NEXT TO ME AND START TALKING LIKE SHE'S TALKING TO HERSELF. IF I DON'T SAY ANYTHING, SHE'LL SAY, "OKAY, I GET THE MESSAGE," AND GO SIT NEXT TO SOMEONE ELSE.



BYE-BYE.
I SHOULD BE DONE BY NOON, SO I'LL PICK MINORU UP.
THERE'S SOME WORK I HAVE TO FINISH BY MONDAY.
YOU'RE GOING TO WORK? BUT IT'S SUNDAY!
HUH?
SKRUSH SKRUSH
KLAK
SKSSS

IT'S 9:30...
LAST NIGHT IN SHINJUKU, THERE WAS A SHOOTOUT INVOLVING SEVERAL YAKUZA.
PROGRAM
9:40 GREETING
10:05 CHICK GROUP
PONKIKKI EXERCISE
PANDA GROUP
SONG: TWINKLE TWINKLE LITTLE STAR
TURTLE GROUP
USIC: THE ACORN SONG
BIT GROUP
LITTLE PIGS
9:26
Sunday New
...

AW, WHAT THE HECK!!
WAAH! MOMMA...
YACK
YACK
YOU LOOK SO SAD. WHAT'S THE MATTER?
OH, IT'S GACHAPEN!
MINO-RU...
HUH?
GOO BOY...
MINOWU...

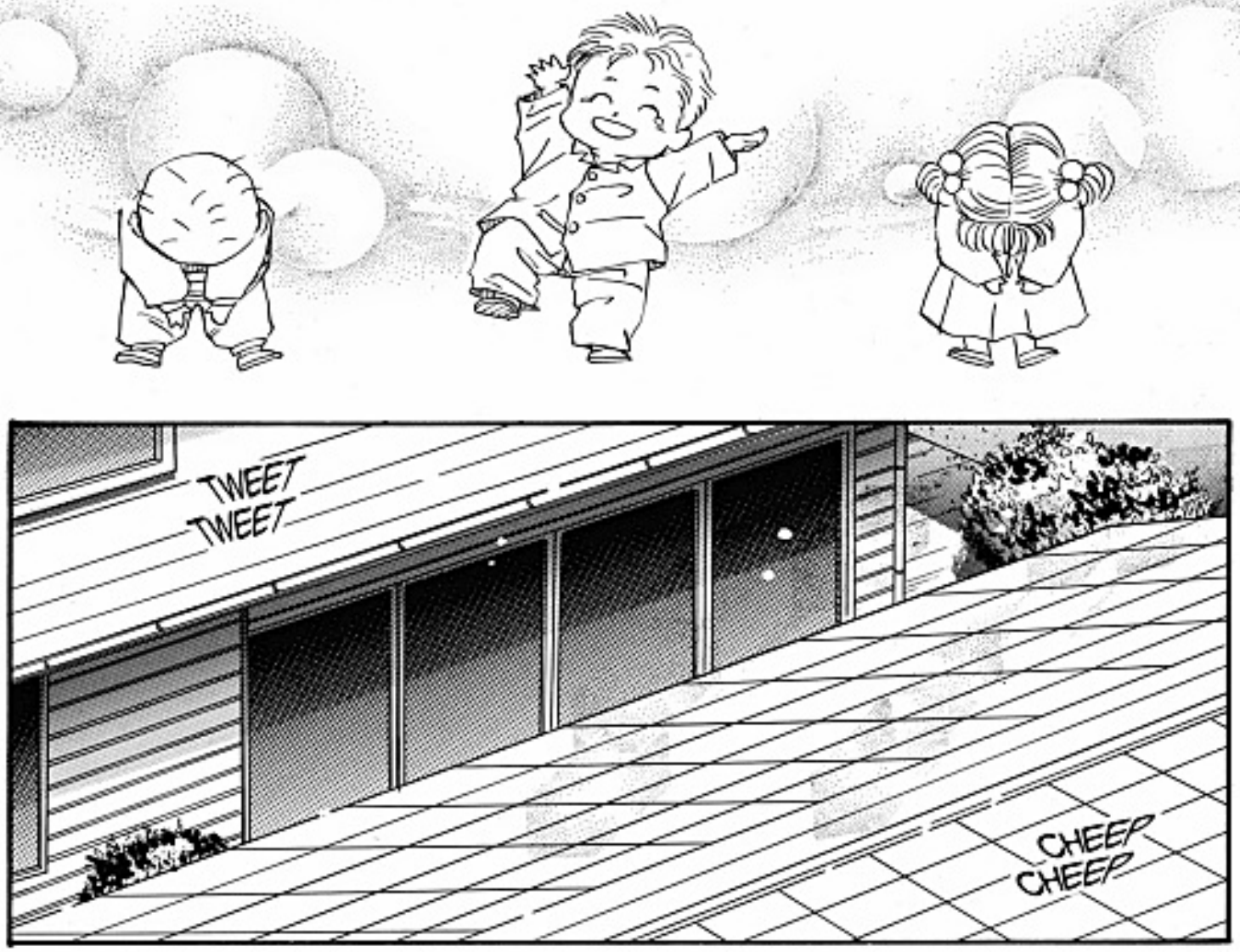
MINORU!!
GASP
SNIFF
SKWIK
SKWIK
UH...
YES, YOU'RE A VERY GOOD BOY.
SNUFF SNUFF
MRMR
HA HA HA
MRMR
MRMR
WOULD YOU LIKE A SWEET DUMPLING?
MRS. TSUKUDA
SUNFLOWER KINDE
CHICK GROUP
THE PONKIKKI EXERCISE
NEXT ON OUR PROGRAM IS THE CHICK GROUP, PERFORMING THE PONKIKKI EXERCISE.
OH...
THIS IS FROM A VERY POPULAR CHILDREN'S SHOW. THE CHILDREN WILL PERFORM DRESSED IN THEIR PAJAMAS.
PHEW...
I MADE IT...
MRMR
HUFF
MRMR
HUFF
TMP TMP TMP

NUNCHAKA
KA-CHAK
NUNCHAKA
KLAP
KLAP
PIT-PAT PIT-PAT PIT-PAT PIT-PAT
YAY
MINORU?
ART
PONKKKI
PONKKKI
MINORU'S NOT DANCING.
OH, DEAR..
MR. SUN IS SMILING, SMILING!
♫
BUKU AND GACHAPEN, LET'S ALL PLAY!
♫
♪
UH-OH...

MAYBE HE DOESN'T KNOW THE DANCE.
THAT BOY'S NOT DANC-ING.
WE'RE FEELING GOOD AND HAVING FUN!
MINORU...
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
NUNUNA
NUNUNA
NUNUNA
NUNUNA

THE STARS ARE TWINKLING UP ABOVE...
BUKU AND GACHAPEN, LET'S GO TO SLEEP.
BWAZA...

...WHY THE TEARS?
HEY...
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE LINE DANCING!
MINORU...
YOU...


TWEET TWEET
CHEEP CHEEP

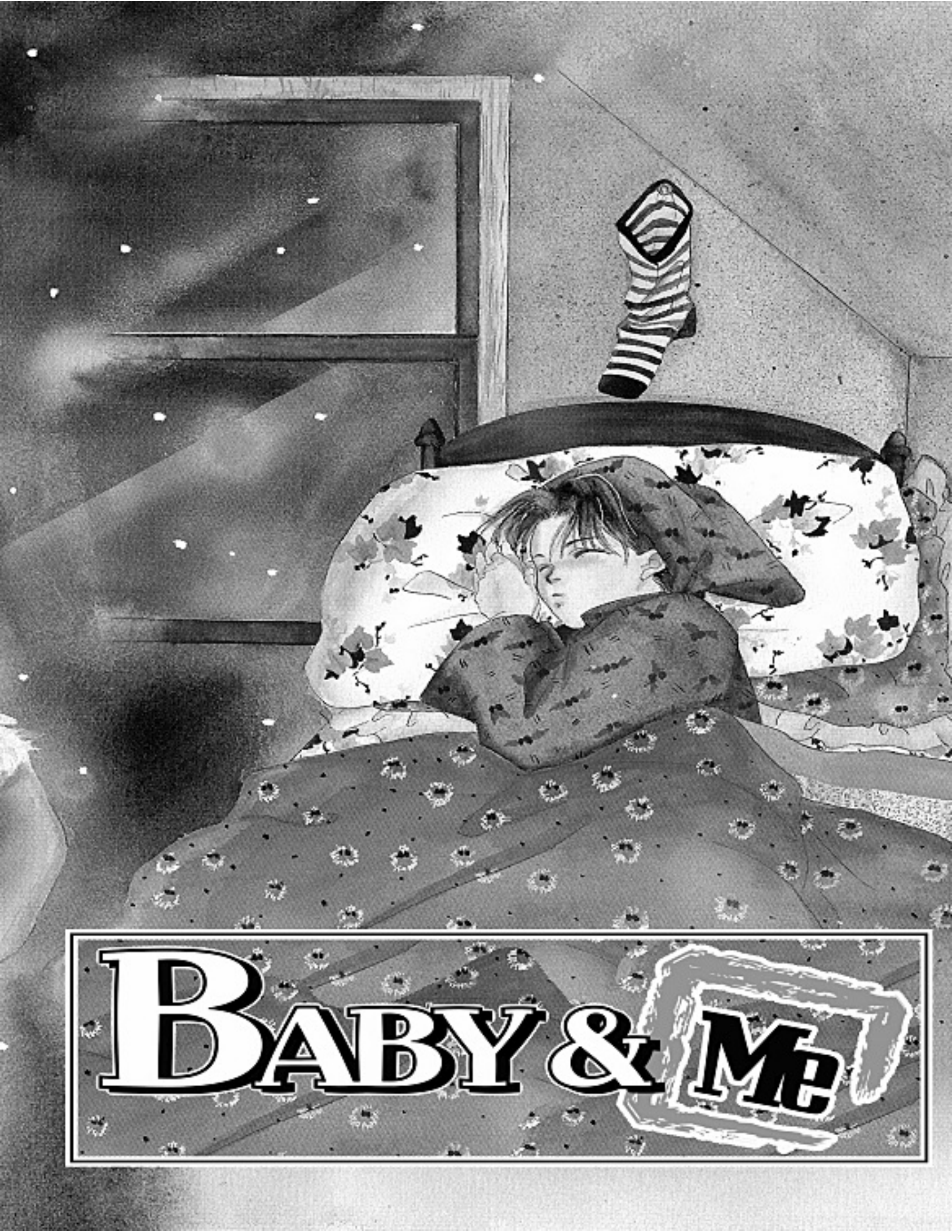
++ THIS ++ IS A NEW DISCOVERY
MINORU.
YOU'RE STILL TOO CLOSE TO THE TV!!

MINO-RU...
EAT YOUR FOOD.

THE PON-KIKKI EXERCISE...
...IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!
STARE
HE WON'T BUDGE UNTIL THIS SHOW'S OVER.
IT'S NO USE.
...THE SOUP'S READY.
SLACK
TAKU-YA..
WHOA!
THUM
I'M SURE GLAD YOU TWO HAVE MADE UP.
ANY-WAY...
YAY...
DAD, THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE THE PONKIKKI EXERCISE...
WHY IS MINORU LINE DANCING?

CHAPTER 4/THE END

CHAPTER FIVE


BABY & Me

AND DAD WOULD COME HOME CARRYING PRESENTS.
MOM WOULD BAKE A CAKE...
...AND COOK A BIG MEAL.
LAST YEAR, MINORU JUST SAT THERE STARING.
EVERY YEAR FOR CHRISTMAS...
I WONDER...
...WHAT IT'LL BE LIKE THIS YEAR...

KLANG
TOMOR-ROW'S THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL-- FINALLY!
WINTER BREAK IS HERE AT LAST! ♬
DO YOU HAVE PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS, GON?
NO, WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING SPECIAL!!
NEI-THER ARE WE.
MRMR
MRMR
HUH? BUT YOU GUYS ALWAYS USED TO HAVE A BIG DINNER, DIDN'T YOU?
YEAH, BUT...
TMP TMP
WELL, THAT'S GOOD...
WE DON'T HAVE A MOM ANYMORE...
STUNNED

AGH!
GON!
SKREK
TAMADATE! TAKUYA'S MOTHER'S DEAD...
DON'T SAY THAT'S GOOD!!
COME TO MY CHRISTMAS PARTY TOMORROW.
TAMA-DATE...
THAT BAR-BARIAN.
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
UM... OF COURSE.
GIMME A ROPE!
YOU'RE INVITING ME TOO, RIGHT?
AND YOU.
FOR YOU...
WHAT'LL DAD SAY?
A CHRISTMAS PARTY?
KLUNK
HEY, MY REAL NAME'S TADASHI!!
HUH?
YIKES
GON
ITATION TO A
STMAS PART
TAKU
INVITA
ONIS

SURE. THERE'S GONNA BE FOOD.
ARE YOU GOING, FUJII?
YOU GOT ONE TOO, TAKUYA? SO DID I.
TAMA-DATE'S RICH, SO THE FOOD WILL PROBABLY BE GREAT.
FLIP
TOMP TOMP
HUH?
ANY-WAY, YOU KNOW WHAT?
TAMADATE ONLY INVITES THE POPULAR BOYS SO ALL THE GIRLS WILL COME.
THAT LITTLE #5%& SURE CAN RUN FAST.
GRUMBLE
GRUMBLE
BUT...
HE INVITED GON TOO.
OH?!
IS THAT TRUE, FUJII?
YEAH, IT'S COMMON KNOW-LEDGE.

WHADDAYA MEAN?! HE BEGGED ME TO COME.
DID YOU SIT ON HIM? TWIST HIS ARM?
...
GOTOH?
YOU?
WHAT?
WHAT A WONDER-FUL DAY...
...JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE ALL THE WAY...
KUMAMOTO CITY SUNFLOWER NURSERY SCHOOL NO. 2
JINGLE BELLS...
CHRIST-MAS JUST PUTS ME IN A GOOD MOOD.
WE HAD A PARTY FOR THE LITTLE ONES TODAY.
DID SOME-THING GOOD HAPPEN, TEACHER?
CHRIST-MAS EVE!
I JUST LOVE...
BWAZA!
WAAA

?
HE-UH...
HEE...
WHAT'S WITH YOU, MINORU?
HEE
HEE
YOU'RE ACTING WEIRD.
SWIP
HEE HEE...
OH, MINORU!
WHAT'S THIS? A COOKIE AND SOME SHRIMP CRISPS...
FOR ME?
UH...
YOU SAVED SOME OF THE TREATS FROM THE CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR YOUR BROTHER?!
FO' BWAZA...

DAD...
I WAS A LITTLE...
...I WAS VERY TOUCHED.
WEH-COME.
THANK YOU...
OH, TOMORROW'S THE 25TH, ISN'T IT?
TOMOR-ROW NIGHT...
TOMOR-ROW?
ABOUT 6:30, AS USUAL.
YEAH?
WHAT TIME WILL YOU BE HOME TOMOR-ROW?
KLK
CAN I GO?
...I'M INVITED TO A CHRISTMAS PARTY AT TAMA-DATE'S HOUSE.

BACK TO YOU IN THE STUDIO...
KLIK
THIS PLACE IS FULL OF COUPLES, ALREADY.
KLIK
THANKS, DAD.
SURE, GO AHEAD.
MINORU WILL BE FINE.
HUH?
WELL...
KLIK
KLIK
SEE YOU!
TOMP
LET'S PLAY TOMOR-ROW!
BYE!
TOMP
TOMP
WINTER BREAK BEGINS TOMORROW...
STAGE
ENOUGH!
IT WASN'T MY FAULT!
TICK-TOCK
TICK-TOCK
...BUT DON'T FORGET EVERYTHING YOU'VE LEARNED!
TICKOMICS MONTH
WAIT A SECO
MAKOTO

WHUP
I'M HOME...
DAD SHOULD BE HOME SOON...
TICK-TOCK
TICK-TOCK
TICK-TOCK
HE'S LATE.
320 YEN
COMICS MO
HI, DAD.
PHEW! HERE I AM!
OKAY. WHAT TIME WILL YOU BE HOME?
HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH MINORU.
SLINK
UM... MAYBE AROUND 10:00?
OKAY, BUT BE SAFE.
WHISPER
WIP
HE'S LOST IN HIS SHOW.
STARE

!!
BWAZA?
WHAT'S WRONG, MINORU?
WIP
WIP
worried
UH-OH.
HEY?!
BWAZA!
UH-OH!
TUP
KING
TUP
...
KING
I'M OFF.
OKAY.
TUK

AUTHOR'S NOTE 7

ONE DAY, I SAID TO MY SISTER, "TAKUYA'S THE MAIN CHARACTER, BUT THERE'S NOTHING DISTINCTIVE ABOUT HIS FACE OR HIS PERSONALITY, IS THERE?" SHE SAID, "NOT REALLY." I KNOW I BROUGHT IT UP, BUT I WAS SURPRISED ANYWAY. BUT IT'S TRUE--FOR A MAIN CHARACTER, TAKUYA IS VERY ORDINARY.

SOMEONE ONCE POINTED OUT TO ME THAT YOU DON'T NORMALLY SEE A CHARACTER LIKE GON IN A COMIC BOOK FOR GIRLS. MAYBE, BUT FUJII HAS HIS LIMITATIONS--HE'S REALLY POPULAR, AND HIS HAIRSTYLE'S HARD TO DRAW.

WELL, IF MY LUCK HOLDS, I'LL SEE YOU IN VOLUME 2.

HMPH...
NO! ME GO! ME GO TOO!
AW, GEEZ...
WHERE'S YOUR TEDDY BEAR HAT?
MINORU...
TEDDY!!
AAH!
...HAT.
YOUR...

BWAZA!
HUFF
HUFF
SEE YOU LATER, DAD!
OKAY...
55
THAT WAS TOUGH...
SIGH
HUFF
HUFF
I FEEL BAD FOR MINORU, BUT...
...HE'S GOT TO LEARN.
HUFF
HUFF

HEY, TAKU-YA!
COME IN.
I WAS AFRAID YOU GOT LOST.
YACK
YACK
HEY, TAKUYA!
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
THAT'S NOT IT. TAMADATE DIDN'T INVITE ANY OTHER GUYS!!
NOPE. THERE'RE LOTS OF GIRLS, BUT I GUESS THE OTHER GUYS DIDN'T SHOW.
AREN'T THERE ANY OTHER GUYS?
HEY, GON...
OH...
HUH?
MORON...
WE'D RUN OUT OF FOOD.
OH. I GUESS THE BOYS EAT TOO MUCH.
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

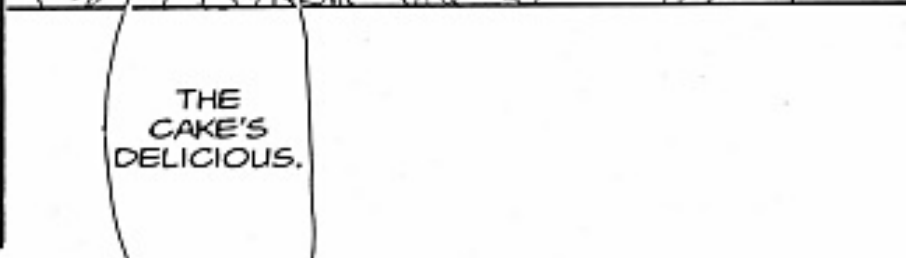
WOW...
IT'S GREAT.
HUH?
ISN'T IT HUGE?
LOOK, TAKUYA.
TUG TUG
IT'S NO BIG DEAL, REAL-LY.
HA HA HA
IT'S IM-PRES-SIVE!
WHAT A HUGE CHRIST-MAS TREE.
CAN YOUR FAMILY AFFORD A TREE LIKE THIS?
TAKUYA IGNORES THE JAB.
NO WAY.
HEY...
UNH
WHAT A CUTE BEAR!
TAKUYA? YOU LIKE STUFF LIKE THAT?
HOW SWEET...

YACK
MUNCH MUNCH
YACK
...
GULP
OH.
MY LITTLE BROTHER LOVES TEDDY BEARS.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, BUT...
...SOMETHING JUST DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.
TAMADATE'S PROUD OF THIS ITALIAN CAKE, YOU KNOW.
DON'T YOU LIKE THE FOOD?
TAKUYA...
FWUMP
DAILY
SOMETHING...

THE FROSTING WAS TOO SWEET SOME-TIMES...
THE CAKES MOM BAKED...
...BUT EVEN AFTER I WAS FULL...
...WERE KINDA HARD.

I USUALLY GET EXCITED ABOUT CHRISTMAS...

...
...I'D STUFF MYSELF SOME MORE.


THE CAKE'S DELICIOUS.

WOW. THAT SOUNDS LIKE FUN.
THERE ARE SIX OF YOU?

I HAVE...
...FIVE BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

IN MY HOUSE...
...WE DON'T CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS.

IT DOES?
IT'S NOT SO GREAT SOME-TIMES.

BUT...
THERE ARE TWO KIDS YOUNGER THAN ME.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WAS A PAIN...
AND WHEN THERE'S SOMETHING GOOD TO EAT, YOU HAVE TO FIGHT FOR IT.
CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT?
I DON'T EVEN GET AN ALLOWANCE.
AND I WISH THEY COULD BE HERE TO TASTE IT.
PRETTY STUPID, HUH?
NOW I'M EATING ALL THIS GOOD FOOD...
...I'LL BET THE OTHER KIDS ATE ALL OF THEIR GOODIES. IT MUST'VE TAKEN A LOT OF WILL-POWER FOR HIM TO SAVE THAT STUFF.
BUT YOU KNOW...
IT WAS FUNNY. IT WAS ONE CHOCO-LATE CHIP COOKIE AND TWO SHRIMP CRISPS...
...AND HE SAVED SOME OF HIS GOODIES FOR ME.
...
THEY HAD A CHRIST-MAS PARTY IN MY BROTHER'S NURSERY SCHOOL...
OH YEAH.

THAT KINDA GETS TO ME.
WHY?
WHY WOULD MINORU...
...DO THAT FOR ME?
I'M GOING HOME.
WHAT?
!!
OH...
IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG, TAKUYA?
TAKUMA'S GOING HOME?

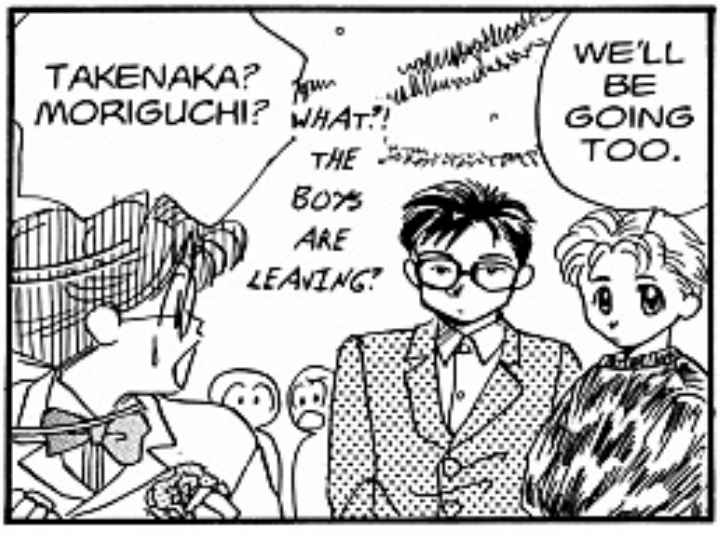
SURE. TAKE THE SILLY OLD THING.
I DIDN'T SAY I WOULDN'T GIVE IT TO HIM.
HMPH!
DON'T BE SELFISH. GIVE IT TO HIM.
GRR

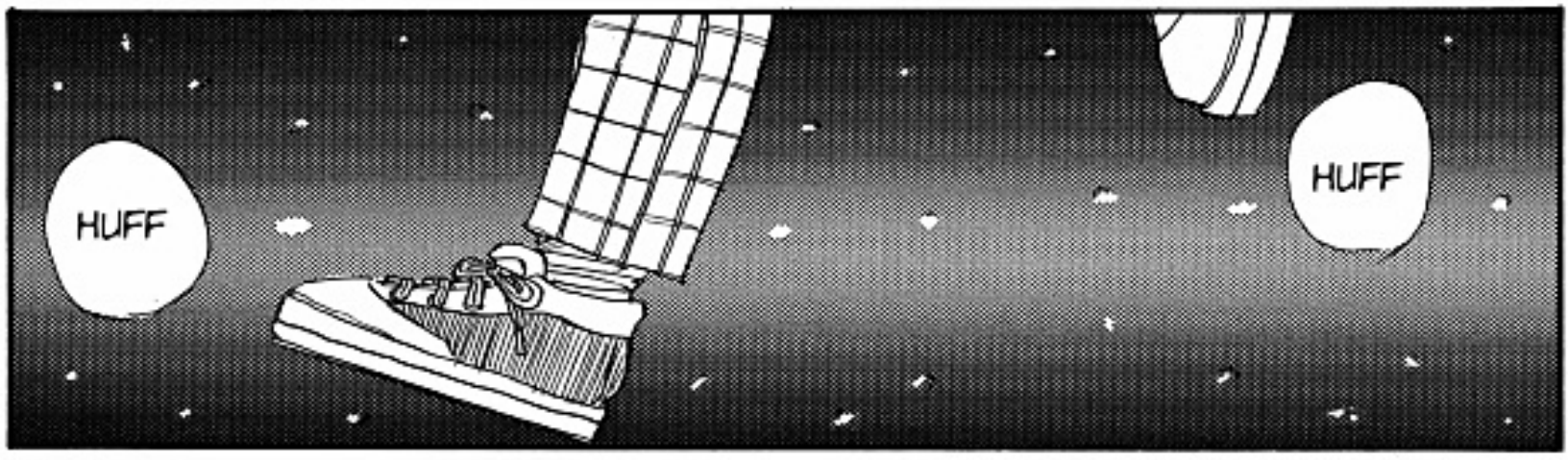
...CAN I HAVE THAT BEAR?
TAMA-DATE...
WHAT?

I CAN TAKE SOME OF THIS FOOD HOME, CAN'T I?
YOU TOO, FUJII?

WELL...
...GUESS I'LL GO TOO!
PASSIONATE
DAILY WEAR
STYLISH

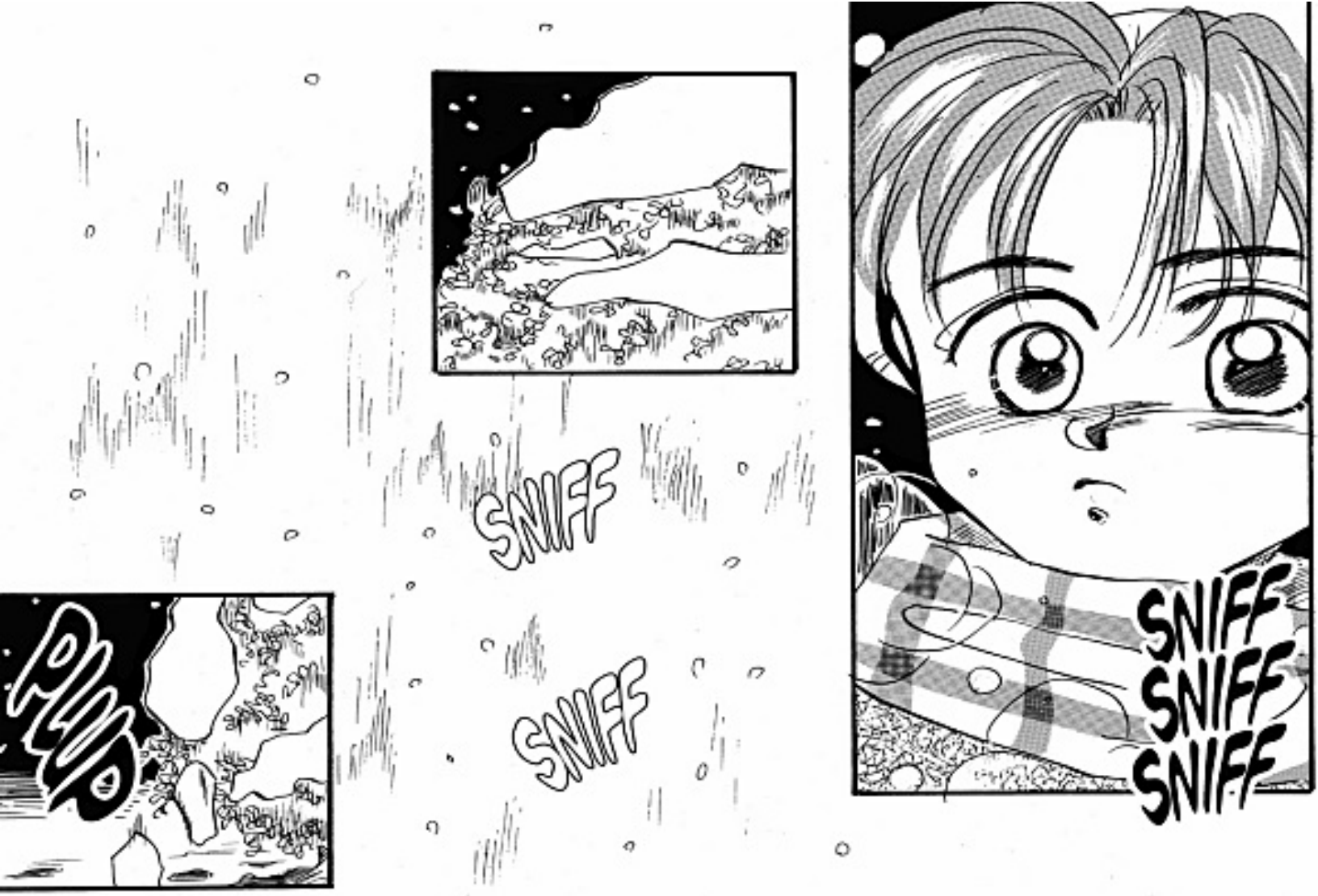
WE'LL BE GOING TOO.
YOU GET OUT OF HERE!!
TMP TMP
...SINCE I BROUGHT OUT THE PLASTIC CONTAINERS, I'LL STUFF SOME FOOD IN.
I'LL STAY AWHILE, BUT...
KLIK


TAKENAKA? MORIGUCHI?
WHAT?!
THE BOYS ARE LEAVING?
WE'LL BE GOING TOO.


HUFF
HUFF

HUFF
HUFF
HEY!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
?
SNIFF
HUFF
HUFF
THE LIGHTS ARE OFF. THAT'S WEIRD.
...WOULD THE DOOR BE LOCKED?
WHY ...
SIGH...
BAM
DAD!
MINORU!
BAM
BAM
HEY! I'M HOME!
RATTLE
RATTLE
HMM...

SIGH...
SNIFF SNIFF SNIFF
SIGH...
DID THEY GO SOME-WHERE?
IT'S ONLY EIGHT O'CLOCK. THEY CAN'T BE ASLEEP YET...
STOP THAT!
HA HA HA HA HA HA
THAT'S NOT FAIR, DAD!
SURE IT IS!


SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNIFF
PLIP

SILENCE
MOM, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WILL YOU BE GONE LONG?
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
SNIFF
SNIFF
EWOOO

TEDDY BEH!
SIGH...
MAYBE DAD...
...WAS PLANNING TO COOK SOMETHING LIKE MOM USED TO.
THE REFRIGER-ATOR WAS FULL.
SNIFF
NO, MINORU!
CRUNCH

HEY!
!!
THAT'S RIGHT.
CAKE...
WITH STRAW-BERRY TOPPING. YOUR FAVOR-ITE.
IF YOU RUN, YOU'LL GO SPLAT!
O-KAY...
BWAAA!
WAAD
TAKUYA...
YOU'RE HOME ALREADY? IT'S EARLY.
BWAZA...
SNIFF

UNH...
SOB
SOB
WE WERE WAITING FOR THE CAKES BY THE STATION TO BE MARKED DOWN.
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
HEY!
UAAA
BUB...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO JOIN IN, MINORU!!
WAAH!
WAAH
WAAH
UNH...
SNIFF
SNIFF
GEEZ! THESE SONS OF MINE...

WHAT IF YOU AND MINORU DIDN'T COME HOME?
I THOUGHT...
HUFF...
ALL THE WHILE I WAS WAITING...
WHILE I...
SNIFF
SNIFF
SOB
HUH?
LIKE MOM...
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
WHAT IF YOU SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED?
WE'LL NEVER DISAPPEAR.
SNIFF
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO...
I...
C'MON..
NOW THEN...
MERRY CHRISTMAS.
SNIFF
HIC

THIS IS FOR YOU.
UNH?
SNIFF
SNIFF
MINO-RU...
A...
A BEH!
THE CAKE WE HAD THAT NIGHT...
...WAS ALMOST AS GOOD AS THE ONES MOM USED TO BAKE.

BABY & ME™

Creator: Marimo Ragawa

Date of Birth: September 21

Blood Type: B

Major Works: *Time Limit*, *Baby & Me*, *N.Y. N.Y.*, and *Shanimuni-Go* (Desperately—Go)

Marimo Ragawa first started submitting manga to a comic magazine when she was 12 years old. She kept up her submissions for four years, but to no avail. She decided to submit her work to the magazine *Hana to Yume*, where she received Top Prize in the Monthly Manga Contest as well as an honorable mention (Kasaku) in the magazine's Big Challenge contest. Her first manga was titled *Time Limit*. *Baby & Me* was honored with a Shogakukan Manga Award in 1995 and was spun-off into an anime.

Ragawa's work showcases some very cute and expressive line work along with an incredible ability to depict complex emotions and relationships. Some of her other works include *N.Y. N.Y.* and the tennis manga *Shanimuni-Go*.

Ragawa has two brothers and two sisters.

BABY & ME, Vol. 1
The Shojo Beat Manga Edition

This manga volume contains material that was originally published in English in *Shojo Beat* magazine, #1–5.

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Touch-up Art & Lettering/Bill Schuch
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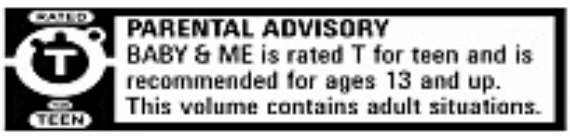
RATED
T
TEEN
PARENTAL ADVISORY
BABY & ME is rated T for teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up.
This volume contains adult situations.